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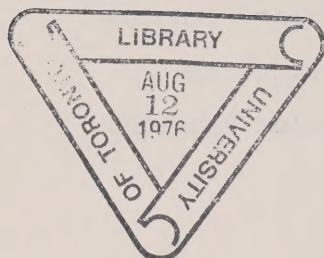
Submission to the
Royal Commission on
Electric Power Planning
with respect to the
Public Information Hearings



TRANSMISSION - TECHNICAL

Submission of
ONTARIO HYDRO
to the
Royal Commission
On Electric Power Planning
with respect to the
Public Information Hearings

March, 1976



3 TRANSMISSION Lines, Stations and
 Environmental Assessment


VOLUME 1

3.1 TRANSMISSION LINES

3.2 TRANSFORMER AND SWITCHING STATIONS

VOLUME 2

3.3 TRANSMISSION LINES AND STATIONS
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT



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1	3.1	<u>TRANSMISSION LINES</u>	3.1-1
2			
3	3.1.1	<u>Introduction</u>	3.1-1
4			
5	3.1.1.1	Functions and Purpose	3.1-1
6	3.1.1.2	Status of EHV	3.1-2
7	3.1.1.3	Status of UHV	3.1-3
8			
9	3.1.2	<u>Voltages</u>	3.1-14
10			
11	3.1.3	<u>Overhead Construction</u>	3.1-15
12			
13	3.1.3.1	Tower Types	3.1-15
14			
15		(a) Effect of Line Angles	
16		(b) Pole Vs Rigid Lattice Structures	
17	3.1.3.2	Foundations	3.1-16
18	3.1.3.3	Line Mechanical Loadings	3.1-17
19			
20		(a) Loading Areas	
21		(b) Vertical and Transverse Loads	
22		(c) Longitudinal Loads	
23			
24	3.1.3.4	Clearances	3.1-18
25	3.1.3.5	Right of Way Widths	3.1-21
26	3.1.3.6	Line Design - relation span, tower height, width right of way.	3.1-21
27			
28	3.1.3.7	Upgrading of Existing Lines	3.1-22
29			
30	3.1.4	<u>AC Underground Construction</u>	3.1-25
31			
32	3.1.4.1	General	3.1-25
33	3.1.4.2	Cable Types	3.1-26
34			
35			
36		(a) Self-Contained, Low Pressure, Oil-Filled Cable	
37		(b) High-Pressure, Oil-Filled, Pipe-type Cable	
38		(c) Compressed Gas Insulated Cable	
39			
40			
41			
42			
43			
44			
45			
46			
47			
48			
49			
50			
51			
52			
53			
54			
55			

Line
Number

1	3.1.4.3	Comparison of Overhead with Underground	3.1-28
2			
3	3.1.5	<u>Status of HVDC Systems</u>	3.1-33
4			
5	3.1.5.1	Reliability	3.1-35
6	3.1.5.2	Line Tapping	3.1-35
7	3.1.5.3	Interference Effects	3.1-36
8	3.1.5.4	Cost	3.1-36
9			
10	3.1.6	<u>Future Concepts and Research on Overhead Lines and</u>	
11		<u>Underground Cables</u>	3.1-38
12			
13	3.1.6.1	Overhead Lines	3.1-38
14			
15		(a) Ultra High Voltage AC	
16		(b) High Voltage and Extra High Voltage AC	
17		(c) Transmission Research Program	
18			
19	3.1.6.2	Underground Lines	3.1-39
20			
21		(a) Damut and Digut	
22		(b) Cryogenic Cable	
23			
24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			
31			
32			
33			
34			
35			
36			
37			
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42			
43			
44			
45			
46			
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48			
49			
50		(ii)	
51			
52			
53			
54			
55			

Line Number			
1	3.2	<u>TRANSFORMER AND SWITCHING STATIONS</u>	
2			
3	3.2.1	<u>Introduction</u>	3.2-1
4			
5	3.2.2	<u>Voltage Levels</u>	3.2-1
6			
7	3.2.3	<u>Typical Power Diagrams</u>	3.2-2
8			
9	3.2.4	<u>Station Sites and Layouts</u>	3.2-4
10			
11	3.2.5	<u>Construction Practices</u>	3.2-6
12			
13	3.2.6	<u>Station Equipment</u>	3.2-7
14			
15	3.2.6.1	Power Transformers	3.2-7
16	3.2.6.2	Circuit Breakers	3.2-10
17		(a) Oil Circuit Breakers	
18		(b) Air Blast Circuit Breakers	
19		(c) Sulphur Hexafluoride Gas Circuit Breakers	
20		(d) Vacuum Breakers	
21			
22	3.2.6.3	SF6 Gas Insulated Switchgear	3.2-11
23	3.2.6.4	Open Switching Busses	3.2-13
24	3.2.6.5	Voltage and Power Factor Control Equipment	3.2-14
25			
26		(a) Capacitors	
27		(b) Shunt Reactors	
28		(c) Synchronous Condensers	
29			
30	3.2.6.6	Other Equipment	3.2-16
31			
32		(a) Switches	
33		(b) Lightning Arresters and Spark Gaps	
34		(c) Current Transformers	
35		(d) Potential and Capacitor Voltage	
36		Transformers	
37		(e) Grounding and Direct Stroke Lightning	
38		Protection	
39		(f) Station Service	
40			
41	3.2.7	<u>Control Systems</u>	3.2-19
42			
43	3.2.8	<u>Protective Relaying Systems</u>	3.2-20
44			
45	3.2.8.1	Introduction	3.2-21
46	3.2.8.2	General Description of a Typical Protective Relay System	3.2-21
47	3.2.8.3	System Relaying	3.2-22
48	3.2.8.4	Standardization	3.2-23
49	3.2.8.5	Future Developments	3.2-23

Line
Number

1	3.2.9	<u>Microwave System and Communication Facilities</u>	3.2-24
2			
3	3.2.9.1	Introduction	3.2-24
4	3.2.9.2	General Description of Typical Communication Systems	3.2-25
5		(a) Cable Systems	
6		(b) Power Line Carrier	
7		(c) Microwave Radio	
8	3.2.9.3	Engineering and Supply	3.2-30
9			
10	3.2.10	<u>Maintenance Facilities</u>	3.2-31
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
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Section 3 Transmission - Technical
List of Short Forms

ac	alternating current
acsr	aluminum conductor steel reinforced
BIL	Basic Impulse Insulation level
CSA	Canadian Standards Association
CVT	Capacitive Voltage Transformer
DACS	Data Acquisition and Computing System
dB	decibel
dc	direct current
DESN	Dual Element Spot Network
EHV	Extra High Voltage
HPOF	High Pressure Oil Filled (Pipe Type)
HVDC	High Voltage Direct Current
Hz	Hertz
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers
kcmil	1,000 circular mils
kHz	kilohertz
kV	kilovolts
lb/ft ²	pounds per square feet
LPOF	Low Pressure Oil Filled
MHz	Megahertz
mph	miles per hour
MVA	Megavolt Amperes
MVAR	Megavolt Amperes Reactive
MW	Megawatts
PLC	Power Line Carrier
psi	pounds per square inch
psig	pounds per square inch gauge
PT	Potential Transformer
R/W	Right of Way
SF6	Sulphur Hexafluoride
UHV	Ultra High Voltage
ULTC	Under Load Tapchanger
VAR	Volt Ampere Reactive

Line
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3 TRANSMISSION: Lines, Stations and Environmental
Assessment

3.1 Transmission Lines

3.1.1 Introduction

3.1.1.1 Functions and Purpose

A delivery system is required to transport electricity from generating stations where it is produced to the points of end use.

Generally, individual customers are connected by sub-transmission lines, i.e. lines at voltages below 50,000 volts (50 kV), to area supply stations. These stations are supplied by transmission lines (nominally at 115 kV, 230 kV and 500 kV) which have adequate capacity to supply several such stations. Some large industrial customers are supplied directly from the 115 kV or 230 kV lines. The higher voltage lines in turn are connected to terminal stations and interconnected with one another and with the generating stations by additional high voltage lines.

This network of transmission lines forms the provincial grid and permits a load area to be supplied from a number of generating stations.

Transmission lines are divided for planning and operating convenience into two main categories:

(a) Bulk power transmission lines -

These are the main lines delivering power from generating stations to receiving terminal stations. On the existing Ontario Hydro system some of these lines operate at 500 kV, most operate at 230 kV, and a few operate at 115 kV. Almost all these lines are overhead.

(b) Area supply lines -

These lines take power from the bulk power transmission system at the receiving terminal stations and transmit it to area-supply transformer stations. The usual voltage levels are 230 kV or 115 kV. These lines are mainly

Line
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overhead but are often put underground in urban areas.

The number of miles of line in operation in the system at the end of 1975 were as follows:

<u>Line Voltage</u>	<u>Circuit Miles</u>	<u>Tower Line Miles*</u>
500 kV	645	645
345 kV	3	3
230 kV	7571	5346
115 kV	6769	5199

* Steel tower and wood pole

3.1.1.2 Status of EHV

Up to 1950, electric power demands were satisfied over broad areas of the world by high voltage transmission lines operating at voltages of 230 kV, 138 kV or lower. Growth in the early 1950's made these voltages uneconomic to satisfy future needs and EHV lines operating at 345 kV and 380 kV were constructed in Europe, the United States and Canada. Experience with these early EHV lines brought to light new problems in lightning performance, insulation contamination and radio noise resulting from corona on conductor and conductor hardware.

In the late 1950's, it became clear that there was a need developing for a transmission system with a higher power transfer capability including the ability to transfer large blocks of power over long distances. The development of the generating potential of the Moose River watershed was particularly important in this regard. Lines in the range 345 kV to 765 kV, known as extra-high voltage (EHV) appeared to be the most likely solution. Accordingly, Ontario Hydro undertook EHV technology research at the Coldwater test site, at the laboratories of its Research Division and in collaboration with manufacturers. The broad scope of these investigations included insulation studies, corona on bundle conductors, contamination problems, electrostatic and electromagnetic effects, conductor vibration, hardware design, construction handling of bundle conductors and live-line maintenance.

1 Some of the significant developments, which have
2 resulted from Ontario Hydro's EHV research program
3 have been in such areas as:

- 4 - corona-free suspension assemblies (eliminating
5 the need for expensive corona rings)
- 6 - corona loss research (resulting in the
7 development of a more accurate corona loss
8 formula)
- 9 - the use of guyed structures at 500 kV
- 10 - the determination of allowable voltage stresses
11 in bundle conductors (which more closely
12 defined the requirements for acceptable
13 conductor surface roughness)
- 14 - the development of a spacer-damper (which
15 combined the functions of two separate pieces
16 of hardware)
- 17 - the development of techniques for bare-hand
18 maintenance

19
20 In this same period, research on 500 kV transmission
21 was carried out by a number of U.S.A. and Canadian
22 utilities. Ontario Hydro adopted advanced concepts
23 arising out of the work of others, particularly the
24 data on full-scale switching surge strengths of
25 insulators and air gaps, new lightning performance
26 and shielding criteria and construction techniques
27 such as tension stringing.

28 Ontario Hydro was the first utility to design and
29 construct a line for 500 kV operation although
30 initially it operated at 230 kV. The first
31 transmission lines operating at 500 kV and higher in
32 North America were placed in service in the mid-
33 1960's, including Hydro Quebec's 365 miles of 735 kV
34 line, which at that time was the highest operating
35 voltage in the world. By 1973, there were over
36 11,000 circuit miles of lines in service at voltages
37 of 500 kV and higher in North America.

3.1.1.3 Status of UHV

41
42 It is generally believed that a voltage level above
43 765 kV, likely in the 1000 to 1500 kV range, will be
44 required on a number of systems in the world in the
45 next ten to twenty years. This higher voltage level
46 is known as ultra high voltage (UHV).
47
48
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Line
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1 Ontario Hydro is keeping abreast of UHV developments
2 but considers it unlikely that an ultra high voltage
3 line will be required in Ontario before 1995.

4
5 While there are no commercial installations of power
6 facilities at the UHV level, there are a number of
7 test installations throughout the world. Hydro
8 Quebec's Institute of Research (IREQ) has carried
9 out a test program to investigate the performance
10 and determine desirable design parameters for 1200
11 kV lines.

12
13 Project UHV is an American high voltage transmission
14 research program sponsored by the Electrical
15 Research Council and funded by the Edison Electric
16 Institute and Bonneville Power Administration. This
17 work is being carried out by staff of the General
18 Electric Company in the United States. Project UHV
19 was initiated in the late 60's to provide technical
20 data which would permit utilities to consider the
21 installation of UHV facilities. Voltage levels up
22 to 1500 kV have been studied.

23
24 In the early 1970's, the American Electric Power
25 Company (AEP) and ASEA, a large Swedish
26 manufacturer, in association with the Ohio Brass
27 Company initiated a ten year research project on
28 UHV. The objective of the program is to obtain
29 fundamental knowledge essential to the development
30 of major equipment and the design of systems, lines
31 and stations in the approximate range of 1000 kV to
32 1500 kV. Research has also been carried out in
33 Great Britain, France, Italy and the Soviet Union.

34
35 Much of the work that has been carried out has been
36 directed towards the following areas of transmission
37 line design:

- 38 - establishing limits for audible and radio noise.
- 39
- 40 - establishing limits for electrostatic induction
- 41 effects.
- 42
- 43 - determining a suitable insulation
- 44 design.
- 45
- 46 - investigating techniques for live line
- 47 maintenance.
- 48
- 49
- 50

1 Based on the work carried out to date, it is
2 believed that it will be possible to design
3 economical and environmentally acceptable UHV
4 transmission systems.

5
6
7 Related Material
8

9
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19 Jones and J.R. Leslie, pp 18.
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- 22 6. The corona-loss problem by O. Nigol, pp 28.
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Number

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Line
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Line
Number

3.1.2 VOLTAGES

3.1.2.1 Capabilities

A 500 kV circuit can carry from 4 to 7 times the amount of power that can be carried on a 230 kV circuit. The actual ratio depends on transmission distance and the limits on current carrying capacity of transmission and station facilities associated with the two voltage levels.

Circuit capabilities of various voltage levels based on Reference 1 are shown in Table 3.1.2-1.

TABLE 3.1.2-1

<u>Voltage Level</u> (kV)	<u>Typical Circuit Capability</u> <u>100 Mile Length</u> (MW)
115	70
230	280
345	800
500	1920
765	4500

During emergencies, larger amounts of power may be carried over short line lengths. At 500 kV for example, for lines less than about 50 miles long, present designs have an emergency capability of about 3700 MW. This emergency capability decreases as line length increases.

A comparison of the line cost and the right of way width requirement for one 2-circuit 500 kV line compared to four and to seven 2-circuit 230 kV lines is shown below:

TABLE 3.1.2-2

<u>Number</u> <u>of lines</u>	<u>Per Mile</u> <u>Cost *</u>	<u>R/W Width</u> <u>(ft)</u>
one 2-cct 500 kV	\$ 600,000	250
four 2-cct 230 kV	1,200,000	530
seven 2-cct 230 kV	2,100,000	950

* Per Mile Costs do not include property, legal

survey, bush clearing or site restoration costs.

References

- (1) Transmission Line Reference Book 345 kV and
Above - Electric Power Research Institute
(Book)

3.1.3 OVERHEAD CONSTRUCTION

3.1.3.1 Tower Types

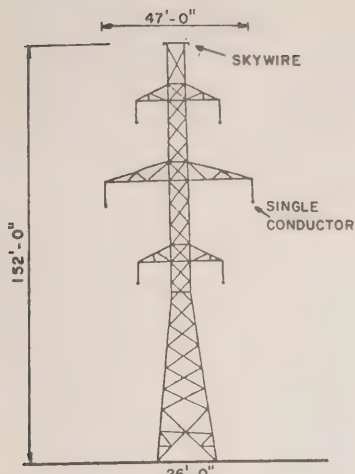
Typical 230 kV, 500 kV and 765 kV towers are shown
in the diagrams of Figure 3.1.3-1.

Skywires, located at the top of the towers are
installed for lightning protection and to carry
fault currents.

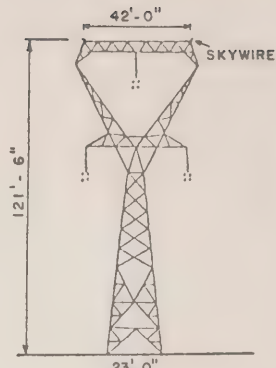
The 230 kV structure, Diagram 1, is a 2-circuit
configuration, one circuit consisting of three
separate phases on each side of the vertical shaft.
Each phase consists of one 1.6 inch diameter, 1843
kcmil, aluminum conductor steel reinforced (acsr
conductor) per phase. The 500 kV, two-circuit
conductor, Diagram 3, is similar in general
configuration to the 230 kV conductor each phase
consists of 4, 0.95 inch diameter, 585 kcmil, acsr
conductors forming a 20 inch square. The one-
circuit 500 kV structure Diagrams 2 and 5, show the
configurations commonly used. The rigid structure,
Diagram 2, is referred to as delta and the guyed
structure, Diagram 5, is referred to as horizontal.
The one-circuit, 765 kV structure, Diagram 6, is the
tower used by Hydro Quebec and is shown to
illustrate the relative size.

(a) Pole vs Rigid Lattice Structures

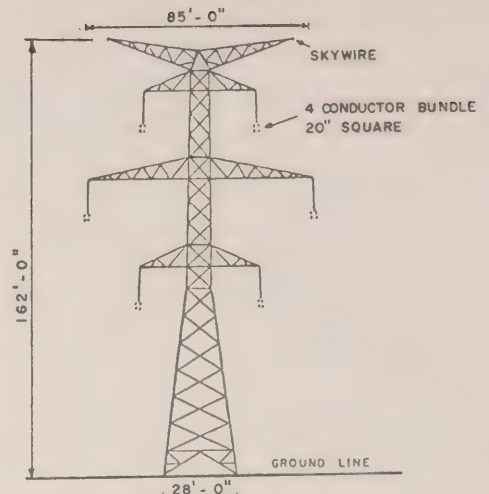
Diagrams of pole structures are shown in Figure
3.1.3-2. Some people have expressed a
preference for pole type structures. Table
3.1.3-1 shows the difference in weight and cost
of pole and lattice structures. The pole
structures are considerably heavier and
costlier compared to lattice structures.



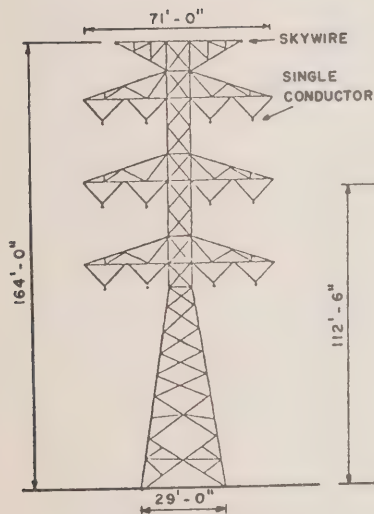
230kV 2-CCT
\$ 300,000 / MILE
DIAGRAM 1



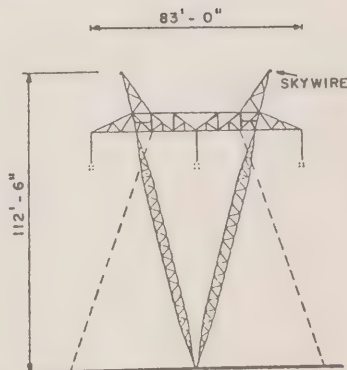
500kV 1-CCT
\$ 280,000 / MILE
DIAGRAM 2



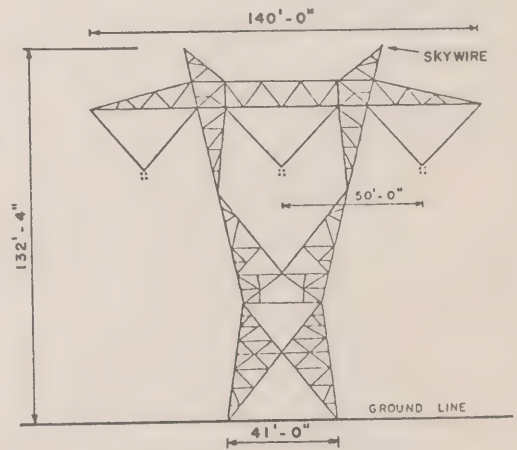
500kV 2-CCT
\$ 600,000 / MILE
DIAGRAM 3



230kV 4-CCT
\$ 630,000 / MILE
DIAGRAM 4



500kV 1-CCT
\$ 248,000 / MILE
DIAGRAM 5



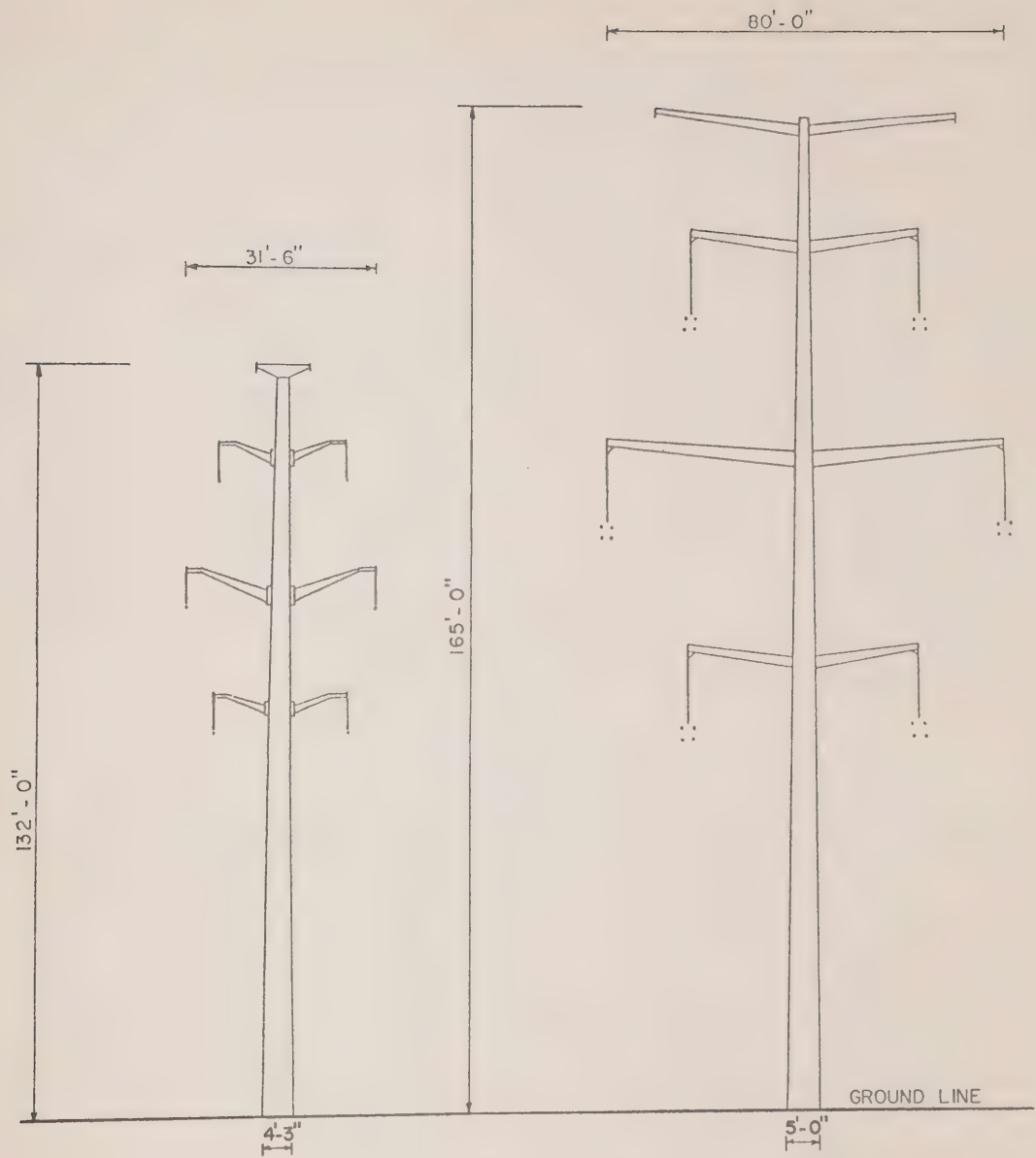
765kV 1-CCT
\$ 660,000 / MILE
DIAGRAM 6

PER MILE FIGURES DO NOT INCLUDE PROPERTY, LEGAL SURVEY, BUSH CLEARING OR SITE RESTORATION COSTS, AND ARE IN 1976 DOLLARS BASED ON USE OF 58 SUSPENSION, 4 LIGHT ANGLE, 1 MEDIUM ANGLE AND 3 HEAVY ANGLE TOWERS FOR A 10-MILE SECTION.

TYPICAL TRANSMISSION SUSPENSION TOWERS

THE HEIGHTS AND GROUND LINE DIMENSIONS ARE MINIMA FOR THE TOWER TYPES SHOWN

FIGURE 3.1.3-1



230kV 2-CCT
SUSPENSION (straight line) POLE STRUCTURE

\$ 360,000 / MILE

500kV 2-CCT
SUSPENSION (straight line) POLE STRUCTURE

\$ 1,000,000 / MILE

FIGURE 3.1.3- 2

TABLE 3.1.3-1

Weights and Installed Cost Comparison
Lattice vs Pole Structures

230 kV, 2-cct

Lattice Structures			Pole Structures		
Structure Type	Weight Structure Only (#)	Structure Installed Cost (\$)	Structure Type	Weight Structure (Only #)	Structure Installed Cost (\$)
Suspension(S)	17,300	25,000	S	41,850	50,400
Light Angle(L)	22,300	32,000	L	47,000	57,700
Medium Angle(M)	45,000	63,000	M	80,750	108,000
Heavy Angle(H)	58,000	90,000	H	148,000	194,000
Cost per Mile = \$300,000			Cost per Mile = \$493,000		

500 kV, 2-cct

Lattice Structures			Pole Structures		
Structure Type	Weight Structure Only (#)	Structure Installed Cost (\$)	Structure Type	Weight Structure (Only #)	Structure Installed Cost (\$)
Suspension(S)	40,400	55,000	S	98,000	120,000
Light Angle(L)	52,800	73,000	L	137,000	158,000
Medium Angle(M)	108,700	189,000	M	226,000	285,000
Heavy Angle(H)	152,000	250,000	H	230,000	339,000
Cost per Mile = \$600,000			Cost per Mile = \$1,000,000		

Structure costs are representative of total installed cost of structure with foundation, but do not include conductor and stringing costs. The basis for per mile costs are described in (b).

(b) Effect of Line Angles

Only suspension (or straight line) towers are shown in Figure 3.1.3-1. In a transmission line, turns in the direction of the line (i.e. deflection angles) are taken by angle towers as illustrated in Figure 3.1.3-3. The per mile costs, in 1975 dollars, shown in Figure 3.1.3-1 and Table 3.1.3-1 are based on a 10-mile section in which there are 58 suspension towers, 4 light angle towers, 1 medium angle tower and 3 heavy angle (or anchor) towers. This is representative of the average usage in Southern Ontario. In Northern Ontario, the spans could be longer and the relative number of angle structures less. Table 3.1.3-1 shows the higher cost of angle and dead-end structures compared to suspension structures. From a purely standpoint, therefore, turns in the line should be kept as few as possible. The angle and dead-end structures are more massive and, therefore, have a greater visual impact than the suspension structures.

3.1.3.2 Foundations

Figure 3.1.3-4 shows the more commonly used foundations. The augered or cast-in-place footing has a wide application in Southern Ontario. Augered footings can not be used in rocky soils or soils that are too weak to hold their shape until the concrete is poured.

The grillage type footing is made up of steel sections usually rolled angles, channels and beams. Grillage are generally used for the lower range of footing loads and in some instances where augering equipment cannot be taken in to the site.

The pad and pier type footing is made up of steel reinforced concrete formed to shape. Pad and pier footings are suitable for heavy loads where augered depths would be impractical or where soil must be supported while concrete is being poured.

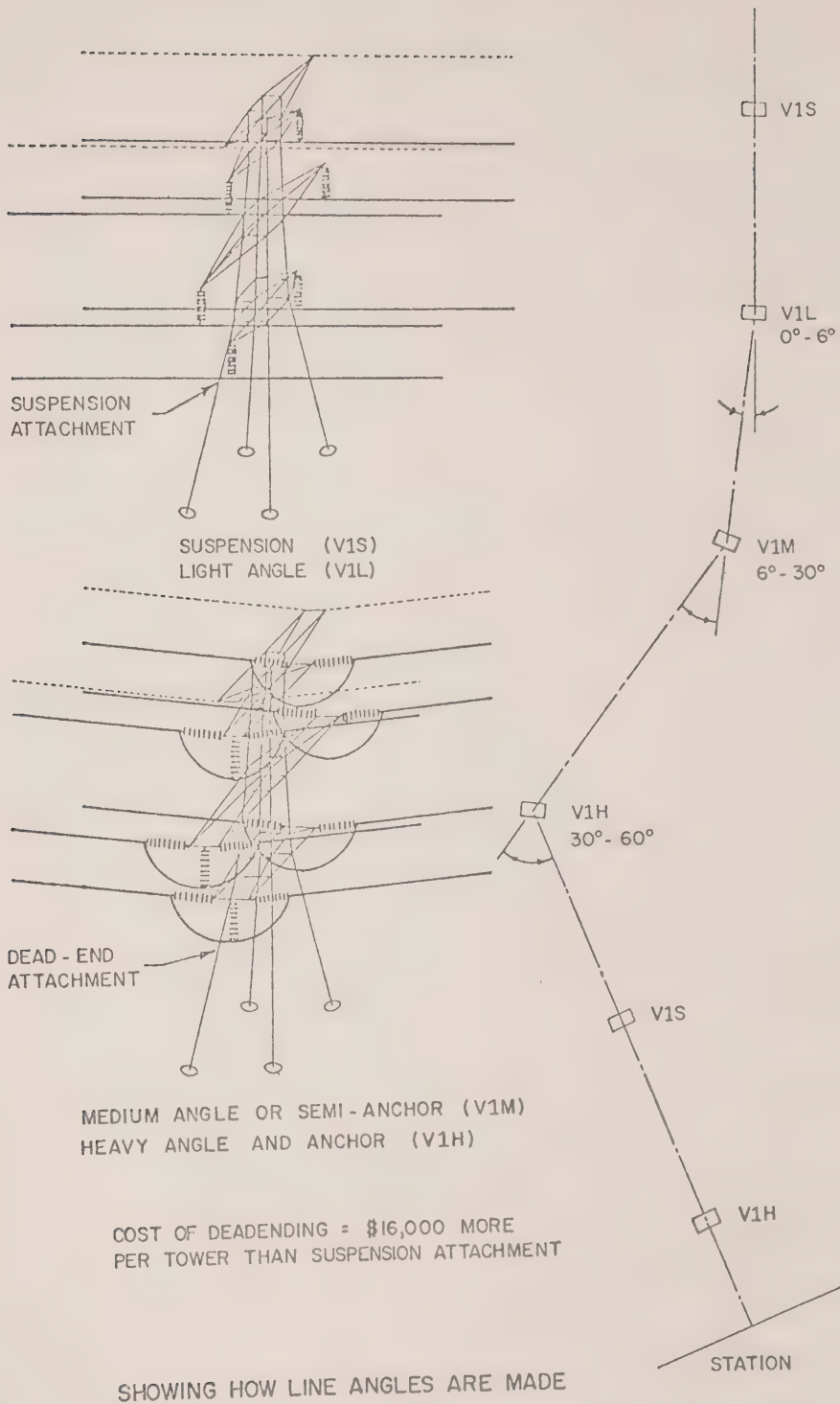
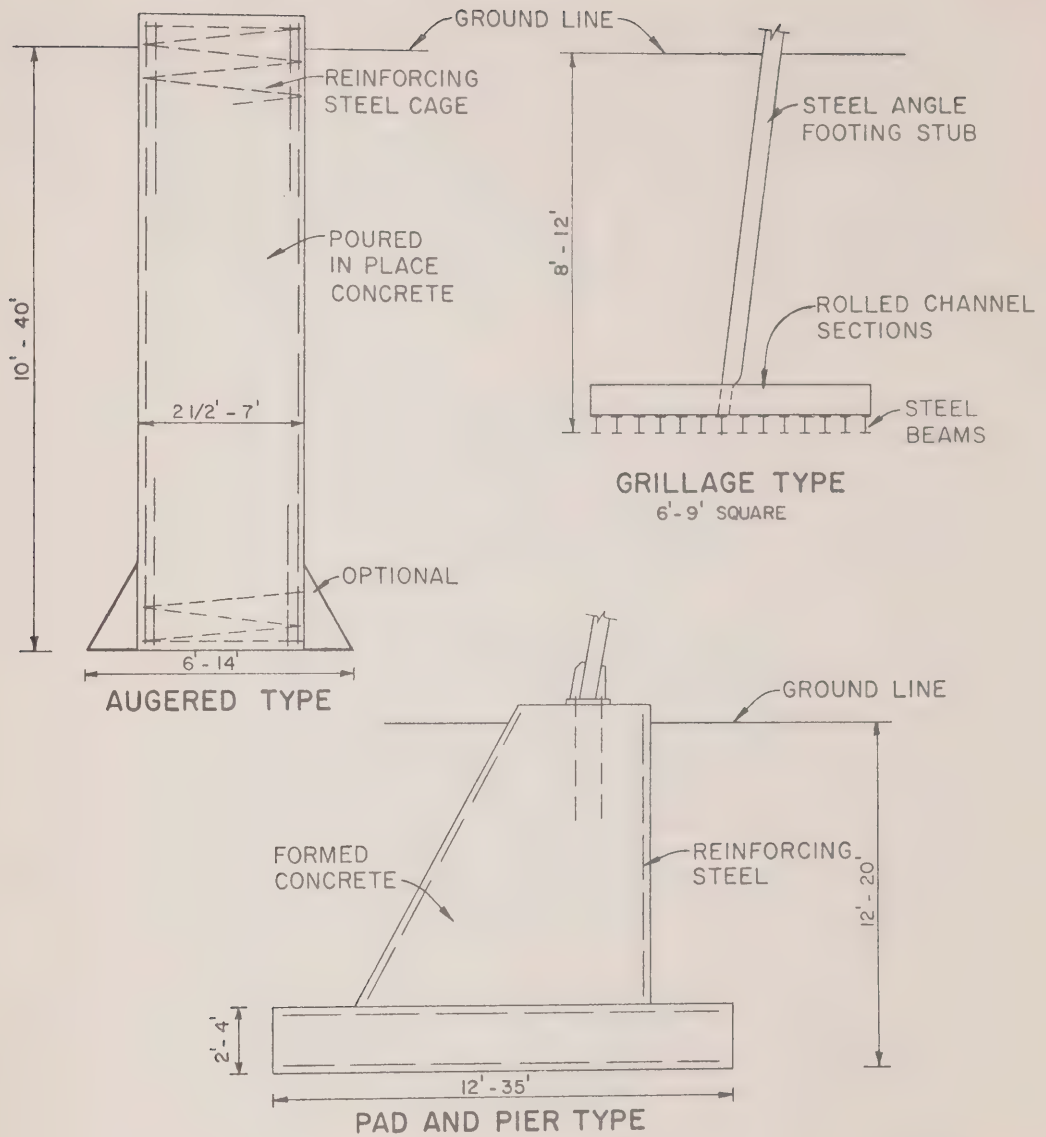


FIGURE 3.1.3-3



FOUNDATION TYPES

FIGURE 3.1.3-4

3.1.3.3 Line Mechanical Loadings

The components of a transmission line, the structures, foundations, conductor, insulators and hardware, must be capable of sustaining the mechanical loading designed into the line as well as the loading imposed as a result of weather conditions of temperature, wind and icing. The severity of the weather conditions for which a given line is designed depends on the area of the province and the system security requirements for the line. The mechanical loadings for tower design are shown in Table 3.1.3-2.

(a) Loading Areas

The Canadian Electrical Code (C.S.A. Standard C22.3 No. 1) divides much of the province into two loading areas which indicate heavy and medium ice and wind loading conditions (see Figure 3.1.3-5). The most northern part of the province is unclassified, because of the lack of sufficient weather statistics.

Loadings for tower design are based on accumulated experience as well as the available weather reports. However, to serve as a check on the actual values used for wind velocity and ice formation in areas where weather conditions have been severe, a study was contracted out to a consulting firm with expertise in meteorology (1). This study confirmed the adequacy of the design loading. For the more northern parts of the province, where data is scarce, a study is underway to provide a firmer base upon which to calculate design loadings.

Ontario Hydro defines various security classifications for transmission lines depending on a line's ability to withstand a variety of weather conditions. For example, a 500 kV line is designed as a high security line.

Such a line is designed to withstand what is considered a 50-year return storm. Under a 50-year return wind or 50-year return ice condition, the line is strained close to its

TABLE 3.1.3-2

TOWER DESIGN LOADS

	<u>Security Classification</u>			
	A	B	C	D
Wind on conductor (lbs/ft ²)	30	24	17	13
Wind on tower (lbs/ft ²)	86	65	52	42
Wind velocity (mph)	115	100	90	80
Reduction Factor (α)	.8	.8	.7	.7
Ice alone (radial in.)	2	2	1	3/4
Combined ice, wind (ice (in.))	1	3/4	1/2	1/4
wind (lbs/ft ²)	10	10	10	10
wind velocity (mph)	60	60	60	60
α	.9	.9	.9	.9
Longitudinal loads				
crossarm	EDS all pts. or Loaded 1 pt.	EDS, 1 pt.	60% EDS, 1 pt.	
ground cable arm	Loaded, 2 pts.	Loaded 1pt.	EDS, 1 pt.	

EDS = Everyday stress

 α = wind gust reduction Factor

pts = points of support

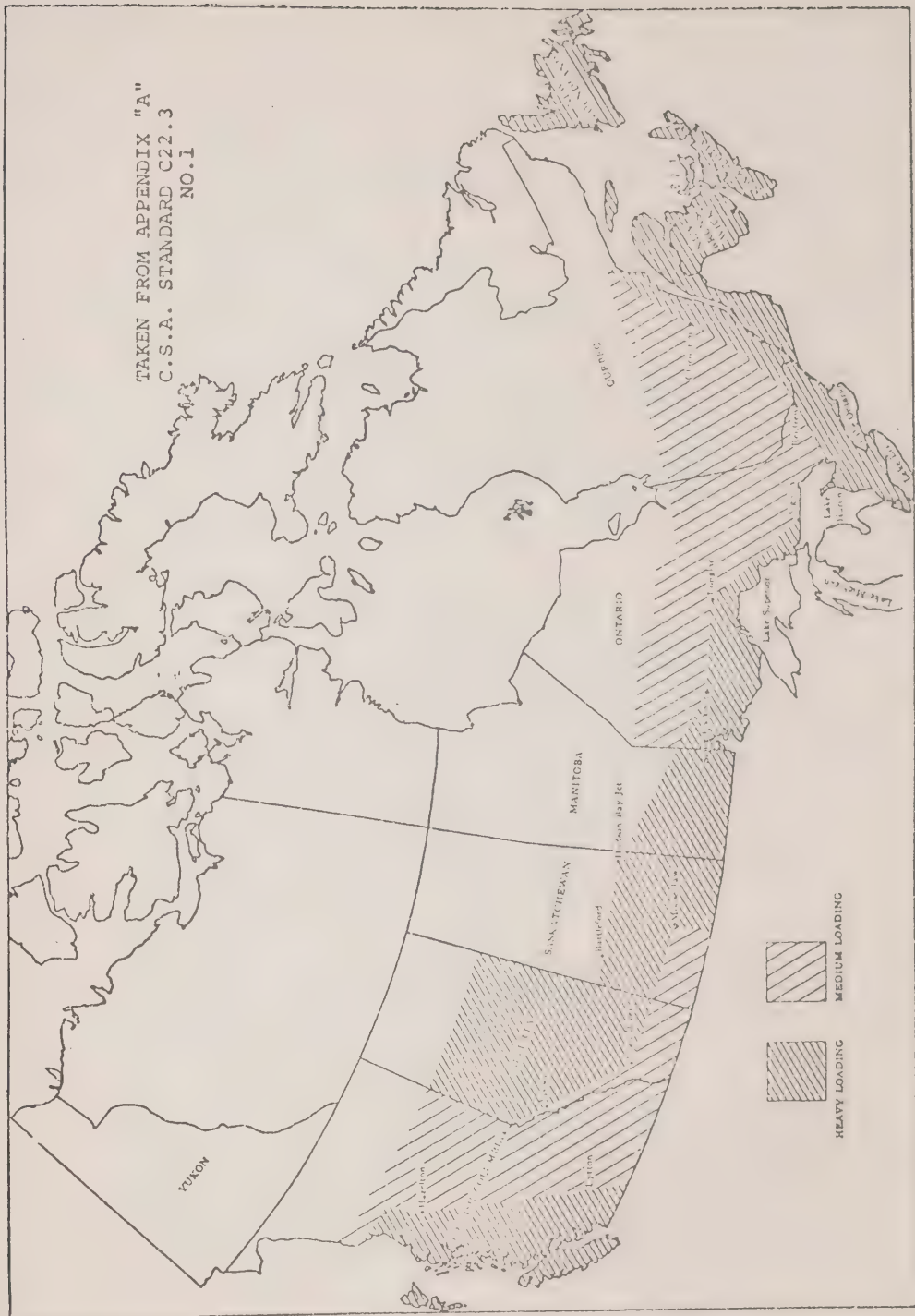


FIGURE 3.1.3 - 5

ultimate capacity. Under these conditions, some line components may need to be replaced because of permanent distortion due to excessive stress. A line is required to withstand without permanent distortion of components, a 20 to 30 year return storm.

(b) Vertical and Transverse Loads

Although ice usually forms on a complete tower span, severe winds are gusty, that is, they have a limited front. On long spans appropriate to high voltage line design, a gust reduction factor (2) is applicable. That is, the maximum gust velocity recorded at meteorological stations is reduced by a factor to account for its non-uniformity. This gust factor varies with the magnitude of the wind velocity.

(c) Longitudinal Loads

Longitudinal loading is usually designed into a tower. The purpose of this load is to accommodate uneven conductor tension loads resulting from uneven wind loading and uneven ice loading which results when ice falls from one span before falling from the adjacent span. Longitudinal capacity in a structure is designed to limit the extent of failure (i.e. number of structures affected) where a catastrophe such as impact by aircraft or a tornado causes a tower to fail.

3.1.3.4 Clearances

National standards (the Canadian Electrical Code, Part III, CSA Standard C22.3 No. 1) define minimum acceptable clearances for safe and continuous operation and protection of property.

Ontario Hydro normally provides a margin of clearance over these code requirements to ensure meeting the standard. Table 3.1.3-3 compares the vertical clearances of conductors above ground required by CSA C22.3 No. 1 and those provided by Ontario Hydro. Table 3.1.3-4 compares the horizontal clearances from conductors to a building required by CSA to the minimum provided by Ontario

Line
Number

Hydro. Both horizontal clearances are to be maintained when the conductor is swung due to wind. The swing calculations employed by CSA and Ontario Hydro are identical and the clearances are based on estimated transient voltages generated by switching operation.

Consideration is also given by Ontario Hydro to conductor swings that are possible during extremely high winds. Since conductor sag increases with tower span length, the conductor swing also increases, so that lines with long spans require a greater width of right of way than those with short spans.

In June, 1974, a study was conducted to review the adequacy of the clearances provided over farmland (3). Data and dimensions of farm equipment were obtained from the principal manufacturers of the largest equipment and opinions were sought from equipment dealers' associations. It was found that the minimum clearances required by the Canadian Electrical Code and provided by Ontario Hydro allow for vehicle heights of 13 feet 6 inches and permit the largest combines and other equipment engaged in such operations as plowing, cultivating, seeding, crop gathering and spraying to pass under the line at the lowest point of the conductor at it's maximum sag.

However, equipment such as chisel plows and disk harrows can be as high as 22 feet in the folded-up or transport position. The Canadian Electrical Code does not consider it necessary from a safety standpoint to provide mid-span minimum clearances above ground for equipment which folds vertically for transport. Such equipment in the folded-up position can easily pass under the line at other points of the span closer to a supporting tower.

Line
Number

TABLE 3.1.3-3

Comparison of Vertical Clearances

	<u>230 kV</u>		<u>500 kV</u>	
	<u>CSA require -ment</u>	<u>Ont. Hydro Design Clearance</u>	<u>CSA require -ment</u>	<u>Ont. Hydro Design Clearance</u>
Over land normally traversed by pedestrians only	15'-0"	18'-0"	20'-7"	25'-0"
Over roads and lanes	20'-0"	24'-0"	36'-5"	40'-0" *
Over farm lands and lands (other than roads) accessible to vehicles but not normally traversed by large trans- port trucks.	20'-0"	24'-0"	31'-2"	40'-0" **

*Ontario Hydro's design practice is to provide a minimum 50 foot clearance over roads because of the need to cross over local service lines.

** Over agricultural lands, a minimum of 40 feet is provided to reduce electrostatic effects.

Line
Number

TABLE 3.1.3-4

COMPARISON OF HORIZONTAL CLEARANCES

	<u>230 kV</u>		<u>500 kV</u>	
	<u>CSA require -ment</u>	<u>Ont. Hydro Design Clearance</u>	<u>CSA require -ment</u>	<u>Ont. Hydro Design Clearance</u>
Horizontal clearance to a readily accessible point or surface of a building	9.2'	11'	14.9'	17'

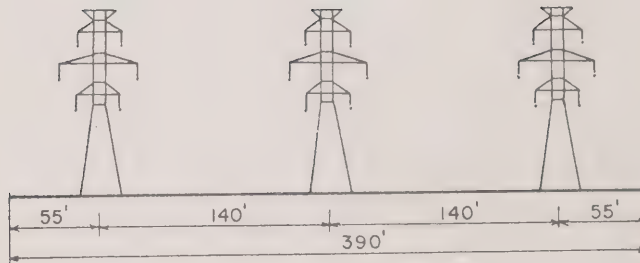
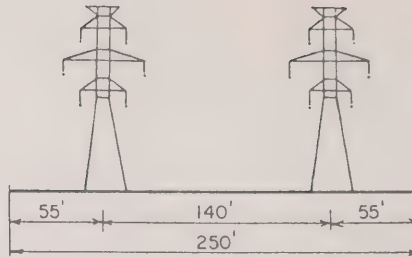
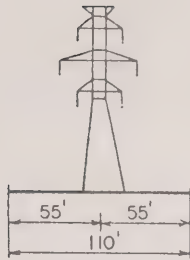
3.1.3.5 Right of Way Widths

Typical right of way widths are shown in Figures 3.1.3-6, 3.1.3-7, 3.1.3-8 and 3.1.3-9 for various 230 kV and 500 kV configurations. Widths for 765 kV lines are shown for comparison purposes. The actual widths required for specific rights of way vary, depending on a variety of factors such as span length, conductor size and sag and helicopter requirements.

3.1.3.6 Line Design - Relationship of Span, Tower Height and Width of Right of Way

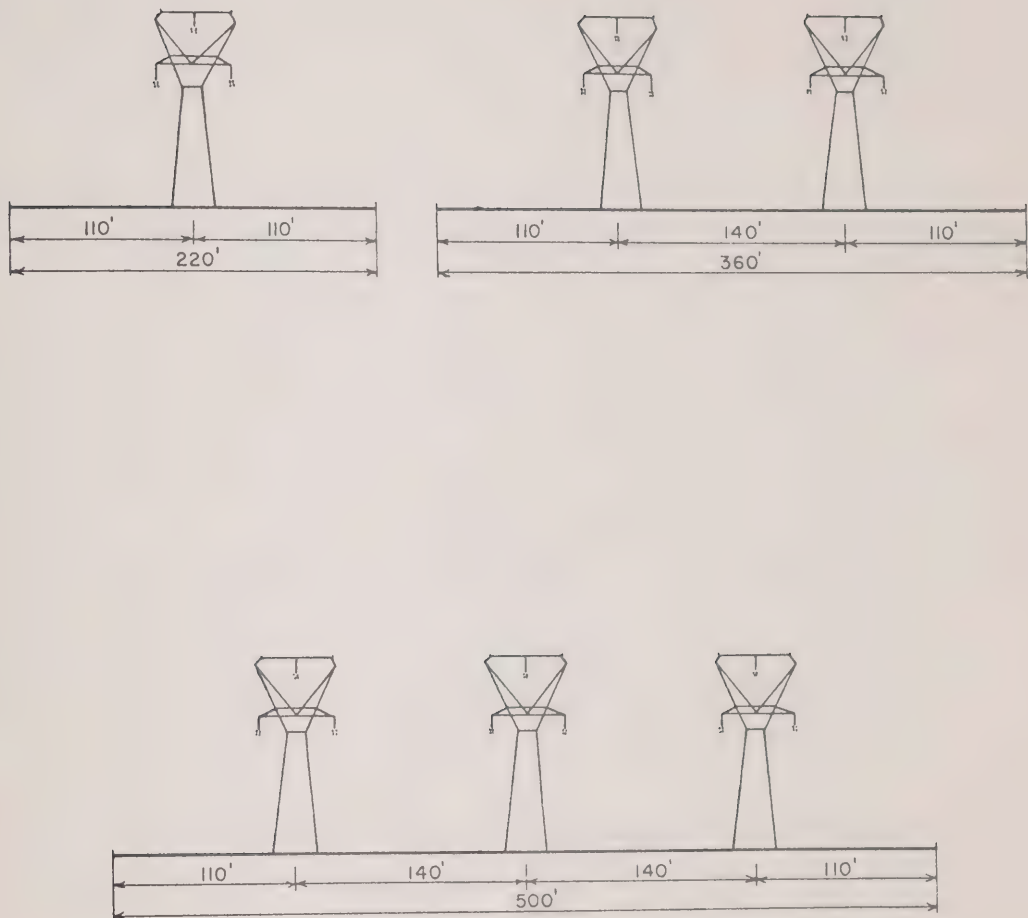
There are general relationships that exist between tower height, span length and width of right of way. For example, for a given conductor tension, the longer the span, the fewer the towers but the towers are higher and the right of way is usually wider because of the increased conductor sag and resulting swing out under wind pressure.

The components of a transmission line such as the structures, foundations, insulation, hardware, grounding and skywires have a single purpose - to support and protect the line conductors which carry electric power from one point to another. However, line design is a complex process involving the locating of structures on a given route so as to utilize as fully as possible the design capacity of



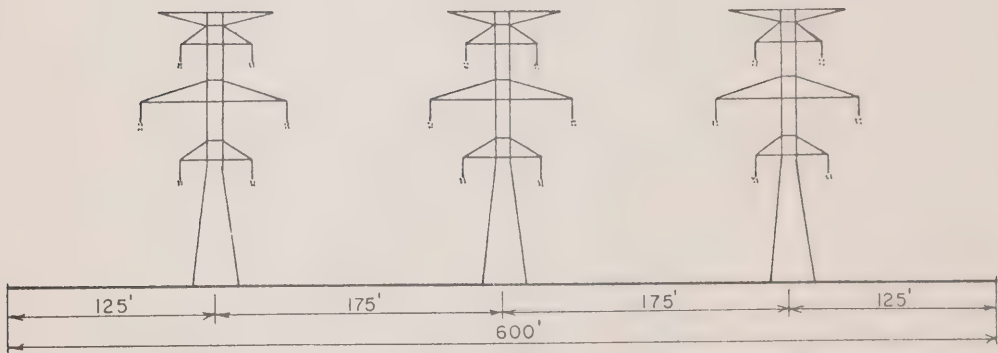
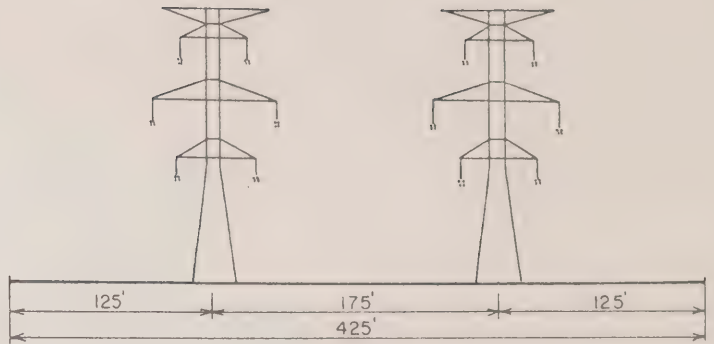
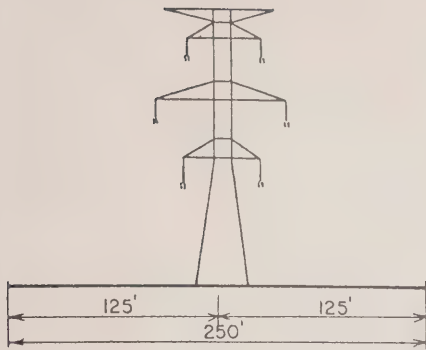
230kV 2-CCT TOWERS
RIGHT OF WAY WIDTHS

FIGURE 3.1.3-6



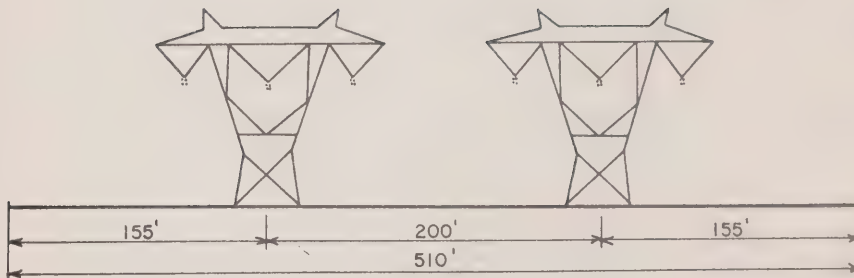
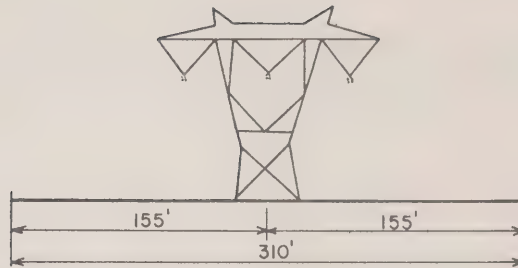
500kV 1-CCT TOWERS
RIGHT OF WAY WIDTHS

FIGURE 3.1.3-7



500kV 2-CCT TOWERS
RIGHT OF WAY WIDTHS

FIGURE 3.1.3-8



765kV 1-CCT RIGID TYPE TOWERS
RIGHT OF WAY WIDTHS

FIGURE 3.1.3-9

Line
Number

the components within the design, safety and environmental restraints and to meet the required levels of system reliability.

3.1.3.7

Upgrading of Existing Lines or Rights of Way

Several methods for improving transmission facilities are examined before a decision is made to build new transmission lines on new rights of way. In order of ascending initial cost these are:

- Increasing the current carrying capacity at the same voltage.
- Increasing the operating voltage, but retaining existing towers and conductors.
- Increasing the operating voltage and current carrying capacity, using existing towers with new conductors.
- Removing existing towers and conductors and building new lines on existing rights of way.

(a) Increased Current Capacity

When current is increased, the temperature of a conductor increases. The higher temperature causes longitudinal expansion and results in more sag with a consequent reduction in ground clearances.

Ground clearances can be improved by increasing conductor tension, by interspacing structures or by adding tower extensions below the existing structures.

Any combination of these methods may be used, but they are not always feasible. Any increase in conductor tension, for instance, increases the stress on angle and anchor towers and also reduces the conductors' capacity to carry ice and wind loads. Interspacing of structures is a relatively costly alternative and may require additional property rights.

(b) Increased Line Voltage

Increasing the voltage of a line designed for a lower voltage level requires re-insulation and results in a reduction of the normal clearances for the higher voltage level with a consequent reduction in the security level.

Another consideration is the increased radio noise caused by higher conductor surface voltage gradient. The voltage gradient is a function of voltage, conductor diameter and phase spacing. As most 115 kV lines are strung with smaller conductors than 230 kV lines and as phase spacing is also less, it follows that 115 kV lines will generate more radio noise if they are converted to 230 kV operation. In areas where signal strengths are high, the signal-to-noise ratio may still be good enough to provide satisfactory radio reception. Conversely, in areas with relatively weak signals, receivers close to the lines may not have satisfactory reception.

(c) New Conductors on Existing Towers

It is possible in some cases to install larger conductors on existing towers and so improve current carrying capacity and, in some cases, permit an increase in voltage. As larger conductors impose greater structural loads it is necessary to carry out a complete structural analysis to ensure that the towers will not be overloaded. This alternative is rarely feasible, and even in those cases where it can be done some reduction in line security must be accepted. It is normally not possible to convert existing 230 kV lines to 500 kV operation.

(d) New Lines on Existing Rights of Way

Frequently, existing rights of way can be rebuilt with lines of higher voltage. However, in many cases this is not possible unless an alternative facility to replace existing lines is available to take the place of the lines which must be removed; otherwise the supply to

Line
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1 some customers would be either cut off or the
2 security of supply drastically reduced.
3

4 To rebuild to higher voltages also implies that
5 the rights of way are wide enough to
6 accommodate all the new lines while meeting all
7 the criteria encompassing safety and
8 environmental acceptability. It is usually not
9 possible to simply convert the rights of way
10 from 115 kV or 230 kV to 500 kV construction
11 since the higher voltage line would require a
12 wider right of way and, in many instances,
13 buildings have been erected near the edge of
14 the right of way.
15

16 References

- 17
- 18 (1) Meteorological Evaluation of the Proposed 500
19 kV Transmission Line Route Area Between the
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21 Hamilton Region, Meteorology Research Inc. -
22 Report MRI 74FR-1284.
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 - 24 (2) Wind Loads on Overhead Lines - A.P. Birjulin,
25 V.V. Burgsdorf, B.J. Makhlin, CIGRE 1960-225.
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 - 27 (3) Report on Height Limitation of Lines on
28 Farmland, B.R. Murphy, June 1974.
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1 3.1.4 AC UNDERGROUND TRANSMISSION

3 3.1.4.1 General

Underground transmission lines require narrower rights of way than overhead lines. They eliminate much of the visual effect on the environment. They are, however, very costly.

Where such installations are undertaken, Ontario Hydro uses, primarily, two types of cable at transmission voltages of 115 kV and 230 kV. Self-contained low pressure, oil-filled (LPOF) operate in the 15 to 75 psi range and high-pressure oil-filled pipe-type (HPOF) operate at about 200 psi. Both consist of a conductor insulated with oil-impregnated paper, pressurized with oil to exclude air and moisture.

With regard to 500 kV cables, after two and one-half days of expert testimony, the Solandt Commission concluded, (1) that

"500 kV underground cable is not at present an attractive alternative and that neither the cost nor the security risks are justified by the improvement in environmental impact that would be achieved".

A major factor limiting the power transmitting capability of ac underground transmission is the ability of the cable to dissipate heat generated by the flow of electric current. Heat from an overhead line is easily dissipated directly into the atmosphere by radiation and convection. In underground cables, the heat must flow through the cable insulation and the surrounding earth, both of which act as effective thermal insulations. As a result, the conductor temperature of an underground cable tends to be higher than for an overhead line. The temperature rise must be limited to prevent degradation of the cable insulation. Because of this, it is the maximum permissible temperature of the insulation that usually limits the allowable maximum current.

A cable acts as a capacitor with the conductor and insulator shielding as the electrodes. The insulation is not a perfect dielectric so that there is additional heat generated due to dielectric losses. These increase as the system voltage increases. For 115 kV cables, these losses are about one-tenth the total permissible losses whereas, at 500 kV, they account for about one-half.

Because of the high capacitance of an ac cable, a major factor limiting the distance of ac underground transmission is the large quantity of charging current which reduces the amount of current available for active power. The magnitude of charging current increases with cable length and there is a critical length at which no active power is available. For a 500 kV oil-impregnated paper insulated ac cable, the theoretical critical length is in the 20 to 30 mile range. In practice, devices to overcome this problem, called shunt reactors, would be required when the line length is greater than about one-half the critical length. Although capacitive current can be compensated by installing shunt reactors at intervals along the route, these reactor stations are complex and costly and reduce the reliability of a cable installation.

Although the probability of an outage on an underground cable is smaller than for an overhead line, should an outage occur it is likely that the cable would be unavailable for service for a longer period. For some applications, it may be necessary to allow for this unavailability and build additional spare capacity into the underground cable circuits. This would require wider rights of way than those shown in Figures 3.1.4-1 and 3.1.4-2.

3.1.4.2

Cable Types

- (a) Self-Contained, Low Pressure Oil Filled Cable (LPOF Cable)

These cables are sheathed individually in the factory with either an aluminum or lead sheath and covered with an extruded plastic jacket for corrosion protection. Because they are self-contained they can be laid with wide separation

between phases to improve heat dissipation and so increase current carrying capacity.

Their disadvantage is that usually almost a mile of trench must be opened at one time for cable laying. The sequence of installation is such that cable is laid from joint bay to joint bay while the previous section is being back-filled and the next section is being excavated. Because of interruption to streets and traffic, this system is not generally used in city streets.

(b) High-Pressure Oil-Filled Pipe-Type Cable (HPOF Cable)

These cables are shipped from the factory with a moisture barrier, but without a metallic sheath, on reels sealed with a plastic sheet and slightly pressurized with nitrogen to exclude air and moisture. Three cables forming one circuit are pulled together into one pipe.

As the pipe can be installed well in advance of cable pulling, it is only necessary to open a few hundred feet of trench at one time, and consequently there is relatively little interruption to traffic. The strong steel pipe provides mechanical protection from dig-ins. However, since three cables are close together in the pipe mutual heating effects are more pronounced than with self-contained cables. Furthermore, the additional losses in the cable shield and the pipe require a larger conductor for the same current carrying capacity. As a result pipe-type cables cost more than self-contained low-pressure oil-filled cables for equivalent current carrying capacity where the low pressure type can be directly buried (i.e. off city streets)

(c) Compressed Gas Insulated Cable

Gas insulated transmission systems have been installed in recent years at voltage levels up to 500 kV but Ontario Hydro has not yet installed any. Generally each phase of these gas insulated systems consist of two concentric

Line
Number

metal tubes, one the conductor and the other the sheath, and these are held apart by solid insulating spacers. The insulating medium used so far is sulphur hexafluoride (SF6), usually at pressures in the order of 30-50 psig.

All installations to date are short, and total service experience is short. The IEEE Insulated Conductor Committee Listing of Cables shows ten compressed gas insulated cable installations in North America, totalling less than one mile, at the end of 1973. The first system was energized in 1971.

The major advantages of compressed gas insulated cables, compared with paper insulated cables, are longer critical length because of lower capacitance, lower termination costs and higher power ratings. However, because factory produced lengths are so short, many field made joints are required and these must be made under very clean conditions. As line lengths increase, the advantages due to lower termination costs are overcome by higher cable costs.

3.1.4.3

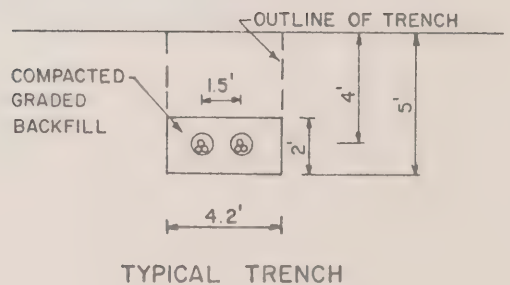
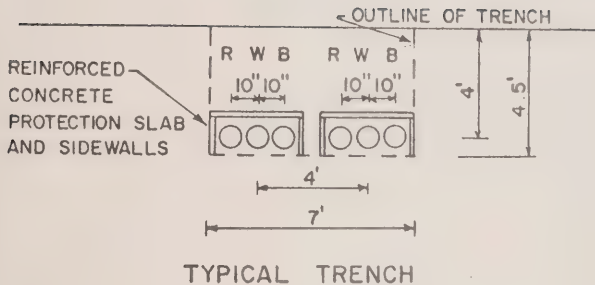
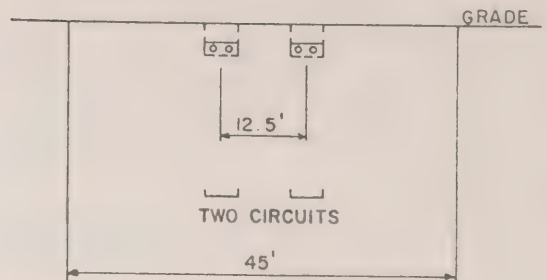
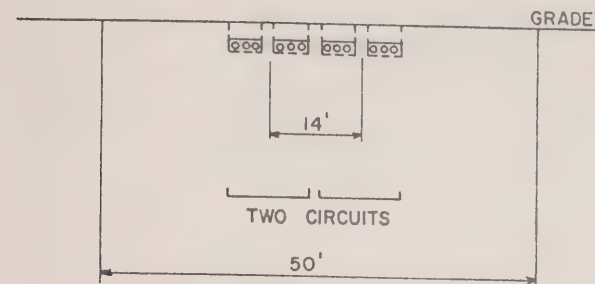
Comparison of Overhead with Underground

The two underground arrangements shown in Figure 3.1.4-1 are equivalent to one 2-circuit 230 kV overhead line with a single 1843 kcmil conductor per phase. The LPOF cable requires two 1500 kcmil copper conductors per phase and the HPOF cable requires two 2750 kcmil copper conductors per phase. The estimated installed cost for the overhead line is \$300,000 per mile based on 1976 costs. This compares with an estimated installed cost for the LPOF cable of \$3,400,000 per mile and \$6,400,000 per mile for the HPOF cable. These cable costs do not include facilities at the termination such as oil pressurizing equipment.

The above LPOF cable installation costs only apply to installations in rural and suburban areas. The installation of LPOF cables in congested areas normally involves the use of ducts and manholes to reduce the length of trench that must be opened at

L.P.O.F. CABLE
2x1500 KCMIL COPPER CONDUCTORS/PHASE

H.P.O.F. CABLE
2x2750 KCMIL COPPER CONDUCTORS/PHASE



230kV UNDERGROUND CABLE
RIGHT OF WAY WIDTHS

FIGURE 3.1.4 -1

Line
Number

any one time. This would result in costs close to those shown for an HPOF installation.

Figure 3.1.4-2 shows the right of way width required to install two 500 kV LPOF cable circuits equivalent to a 2-circuit 500 kV overhead lines. The underground cable circuits require three 3800 kcmil conductors per phase and the overhead lines would require a 4-conductor bundle of 585 kcmil conductors per phase.

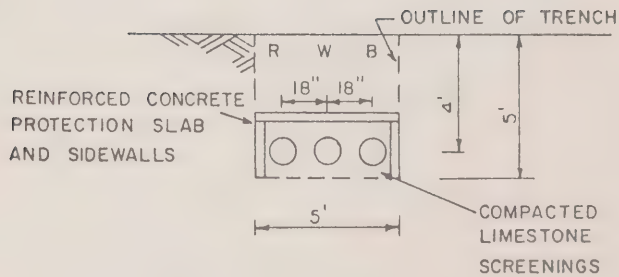
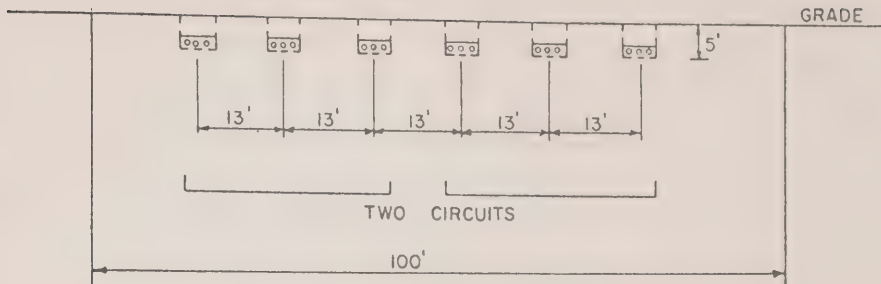
The estimated cost of the underground line is \$16,000,000 per mile compared to \$600,000 for the overhead line.

Because of the larger number of conductors per phase required for HPOF cable, it is considered less desirable than other types.

Tables 3.1.4-1 and 3.1.4-2 compare the amounts of material required to install the 230 kV and 500 kV underground and overhead lines described above.

As noted in the tables, large amounts of excavation, installation of concrete and provision of special backfill are required for underground construction.

L.P.O.F CABLE
3x3800 KCMIL COPPER CONDUCTORS/PHASE



TYPICAL TRENCH

500kV UNDERGROUND CABLE
RIGHT OF WAY WIDTHS

FIGURE 3.1.4-2

TABLE 3.1.4-1

Comparison of Materials
Overhead vs Underground
Based on 2-cct 230 kV (1 mile)

<u>Material</u>	<u>Overhead Line</u>	<u>Underground Cable</u>	
		<u>LPOF</u>	<u>HPOF</u>
Steel	56 tons (tower, reinforcing in foundation)	None	233 tons(pipe)
Copper	None	147 tons(cond.)	296 tons(cond.)
Aluminum	32 tons(cond. including core)	41 tons(sheath)	None
Porcelain	4 tons(insul.)	None	None
Paper	None	59 tons(insul.)	63 tons(insul.)
Oil	None	10,000 Imp. gals. (insul.)	33,250 Imp. gals. (insul.)
Plastic	None	16 tons(sheath insul.)	None
Brass	None	None	26 tons (protective assembly)
Special Backfill	None	3500 cubic yds.	3000 cubic yds.
Concrete	171 cubic yds.	1110 cubic yds.	None
Excavation	171 cubic yds.	12600 cubic yds.	8600 cubic yds.

Cond. = conductor, insul. = insulation, yds. = yards

Total Weight
of Material

Material Installed	442 tons	8458 tons	5866 tons
Material Removed	230 tons	6350 tons	4620 tons
Material Excavated	230 tons	17000 tons	11600 tons

Table 3.1.4-2

Comparison of Materials

Overhead Line vs Underground Cable

(for 1 mile of 2-cct, 500 kV construction)

<u>Material</u>	<u>Overhead Line</u>	<u>Underground LPOF Cable</u>
Steel	187 tons (steel and concrete reinforcing)	None
Copper	None	557 tons (conductor)
Aluminum	57 tons (conductor, includes steel)	108 tons (Sheath)
Porcelain	7 tons (Insulation)	
Paper	None	238 tons (Insulation)
Oil	None	44000 Imp. gals (Insul.)
Plastic	None	59 tons (Sheath Insul.)
Special Backfill	None	8560 cubic yards
Concrete	544 cubic yards	2000 cubic yards
Excavation	544 cubic yards	24500 cubic yards
<u>Total Weight of Material</u>		
Material Installed	1351 tons	19712 tons
Material Removed	735 tons	15200 tons
Material Excavated	735 tons	33000 tons

Line
Number

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Line
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3.1.5

STATUS OF HVDC SYSTEMS

High Voltage Direct Current systems (HVDC) involve the conversion of a high voltage alternating current power supply to direct current by rectifiers, and the subsequent conversion of the direct current power by inverters to alternating current - both conversions being at the same nominal voltage. Transformation of the ac power is required at the supply end of the HVDC system to match the ac supply voltage to the selected voltage level of the dc system. Transformation is similarly required at the receiving end to match the inverted ac power to the three-phase voltage of the receiving ac system.

The successful application of the Thyristor, a solid state rectifier of alternating current, in the early 1970's to HVDC installations, has increased interest in HVDC transmission by designers of electric power systems. The thyristor removed a number of limitations on performance and reliability associated with the mercury arc rectifier.

HVDC systems have some characteristics that are an advantage for power transfer systems. The major advantages are:

- (a) Charging current problems on underground or underwater cables are eliminated, thus permitting transfer of large blocks of power over longer distances by insulated cable. This is of particular advantage for crossing wide bodies of water. An example is the Vancouver Island 260kV HVDC Submarine Link.
- (b) DC transmission permits the interconnection of neighboring systems without the need for them to be in synchronism.
- (c) The transmission of large blocks of power over very long distances may be more economical by HVDC than by EHV overhead systems of equivalent capacity due to reduced costs of the HVDC transmission line. An example is the Nelson River Project in Manitoba. A dc line can be expected to cost about seventy to eighty percent of the cost of an ac line of comparable capacity.

Line
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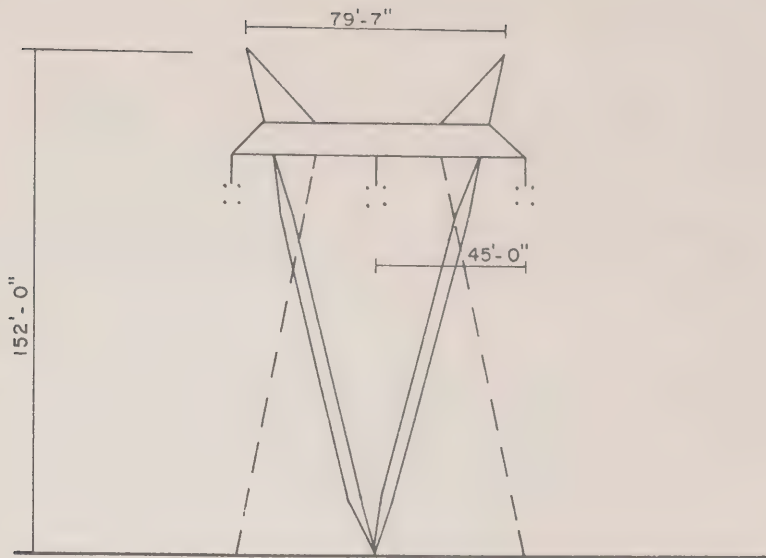
A single circuit ac line has three phases and the normal practice is to use two skywires, whereas a bipolar dc line would have two poles (positive and negative) and usually a single skywire. Thus the towers for a dc line must provide only three points of wire attachment, as compared to five points for a single circuit ac structure (See Figure 3.1.5-1).

The insulation requirements for a dc transmission line are less severe than for an ac line. The most important requirement of HVDC line insulation is the capability of the insulator string to withstand continuously the normal operating voltage, rather than switching surges. This capability is determined by the leakage distance of the insulator units, with special units with long leakage distances having been developed for dc lines. These special units permit use of shorter insulator strings than could be used on an ac line having the same nominal operating voltage.

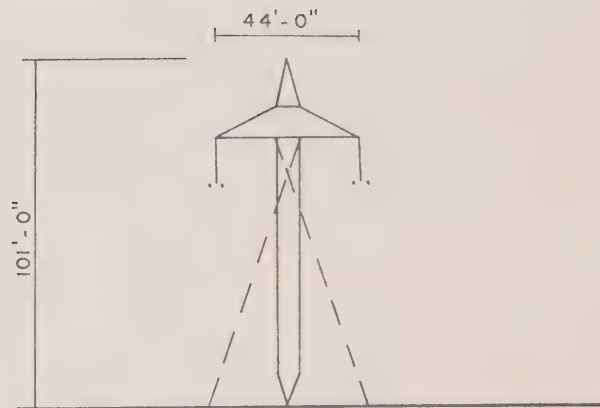
The smaller number of wire support points and decreased insulation requirements for dc transmission lines results in smaller, lighter towers and decreased right-of-way requirements as compared to equivalent ac lines. Figure 3.1.5-1 shows a comparison between a 500kV ac structure and a ± 450 kV dc structure.

Other minor advantages of HVDC systems are:

- The HVDC system does not add to the fault levels of existing installations. This is one of a number of reasons quoted for the adoption of HVDC for the supply of power to the City of London, England at Kingsnorth.
- The smaller towers reduce the visual effect of the line. Also, radio interference and audible noise are reduced.
- There is the possible increased availability of the line by operating with only one pole and an earth return. This mode of operation would normally be used only in an emergency. Prolonged operation in the unipolar mode is



500kV 1-CCT AC
GUYED HORIZONTAL



±450kV 2-POLE DC
GUYED HORIZONTAL

FIGURE 3.1.5-1

avoided due to problems of nearby pipe lines,
ground electrodes and interference with railway
signal systems.

The characteristics of HVDC systems also impose a
number of constraints to their application. The
more important of these are discussed below.

3.1.5.1

Reliability

- (a) The rectifiers, inverters, harmonic suppressors
and the voltage and power factor control
equipment at the terminal stations add to the
complexity of the system, compared to an ac
system, with a consequent reduction in
reliability.
- (b) The basic unit of a HVDC system is the
converter with its electronically controlled
high power valve. Two converter stations are
required, one to change from ac to dc, and the
other to change from dc to ac. The converter
must respond to control requirements within a
fraction of a cycle of the power system
frequency. Though hundreds of miles apart, the
inverter and rectifier must be co-ordinated for
stable operation. This leads to high speed
control loops involving electronic circuitry
for control, protection and communications.
The total electronic circuitry associated with
HVDC systems becomes very complex and involves
many components. This complex electronic
system results in numerous short duration power
interruptions.

3.1.5.2

Line Tapping

Most HVDC systems have only been designed for the
point-to-point transfer of power. It has not been
practical to tap the dc line for the supply of power
to intermediate points. Each tap would have the
drawback of adding substantially to the complexity
of the system. Much work has been done on the
development of a dc circuit breaker and some success
is now being reported by manufacturers. Compared to
equivalent ac breakers, they will be a complex
device. Some time will still be required to
evaluate the capability of the equipment to perform

Line
Number

1 in a working installation. A reliable dc circuit
2 breaker may solve some of the problems associated
3 with intermediate taps.

4
5 3.1.5.3 Interference Effects

6
7
8 Special precautions have to be taken to mitigate the
9 following effects:

- 10 (a) Interference with railway signal systems during
11 transient conditions on the HVDC system -
12 particularly unipolar operation.
13
14 (b) Electrolytic effect on pipelines and other
15 underground plant due to unipolar operation of
16 the transmission line, unless special
17 precautions are taken.
18
19 (c) Telephone interference due to harmonics on the
20 dc and ac lines created by the rectifier and
21 inverter.
22

23 3.1.5.4 Cost

24
25 The cost of installed terminal equipment for a two-
26 terminal 1,000 MW HVDC installation has been
27 estimated to be in the range of \$60 to \$100 per kW
28 at 1975 prices. The cost of the equivalent
29 terminations for a 500kV ac line is estimated at 5
30 to 6,000,000 dollars. The additional cost of HVDC
31 terminals must be saved on the cost of the
32 transmission line, or justified by other advantages,
33 if the installation is to be viable.
34

35 Ontario Hydro has studied and continues to study
36 possible applications of HVDC on its system as an
37 alternative to EHV ac. To date, these studies have
38 not shown economic advantages.
39
40
41
42
43
44
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46
47
48
49
50

Line
Number

Related Material

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Line
Number

1 3.1.6 FUTURE CONCEPTS AND RESEARCH ON OVERHEAD LINES AND
2 UNDERGROUND CABLES

3
4 3.1.6.1 Overhead Lines

5
6
7 (a) UHV

8
9 The status and the research work on alternating
10 current transmission lines at voltages above
11 800 kV are described in Section 3.1.1.3.

12
13 (b) High Voltage and Extra High Voltage AC
14 Lines

15
16 While there are satisfactory solutions to the
17 major problems in the design of reliable lines
18 for operation at voltages between 115 kV and
19 800 kV, work is continuing in a number of areas
20 in order to make the best possible use of
21 components.

22
23 In conductor design, investigations are being
24 carried out to operate acsr conductors at
25 higher than presently accepted temperatures in
26 order to increase their current carrying
27 capacity.

28
29 Research is continuing on a new type of damper
30 as well as interphase spacers to suppress
31 conductor galloping in order to reduce the
32 required phase spacing of conductors.

33
34 New types of insulators to overcome the effects
35 of contamination on their resistance to
36 electrical flashover have been under active
37 study and experimentation for about 6 years. A
38 new shape of insulator and more reliable semi-
39 conducting glazes have been developed
40 permitting shorter insulator strings and line
41 compaction. A short 2-circuit prototype line
42 incorporating this development has been
43 completed.

44
45 In line maintenance, full scale trials are
46 underway to develop methods for live-line
47 working of such lines.

Much of this work is being carried out under the Transmission Research Program described below.

(c) Transmission Research Program

For this Special program initiated in 1970 (1), new facilities were provided, including a fog chamber for artificial contamination testing, a test line for research on galloping control and an outdoor high voltage laboratory for surge and 60 Hz testing of full scale line structures up to the 500 kV operating voltage level.

Ontario Hydro is developing a compact 115 kV/138 kV subtransmission line for roadside installation. This work is being done on a research contract for the Canadian Electrical Association.

3.1.6.2 Underground Lines

(a) DAMUT and DIGUT Systems

A feasibility study on a Ducted Air Medium Underground Transmission (DAMUT) system for operation at 230 kV was initiated by Ontario Hydro in 1972. Very briefly stated, the circuit design is based upon the use of three 12-inch diameter aluminum tube conductors arranged in triangular configuration on approximately 3-foot centres and housed within a 9-foot diameter corrugated steel duct with air as the insulating medium.

Potential advantages are lower cost per kW of transmission capacity, higher capacity and simpler maintenance compared to conventional cables.

Prototype testing has been done on the main duct components but a further five to ten year period will be required for development of joints, conductor support insulators and terminations to produce a complete assembly for full electrical testing before possible subsequent use in the Hydro network.

Line
Number

Consideration also was given to the development of a Ducted Inert Gas Underground Transmission (DIGUT) System for operation at 500 kV using a similar basic design but with an inert gas such as SF₆ as the insulating medium. However, no laboratory tests have been conducted to date.

(b) Cryogenic Cable (Cryo-Resistive and Superconducting)

There are two basic types of cable in which the conductors operate at very low temperatures. One is the cryo-resistive cable where conductors are operated at the temperature of liquid nitrogen, i.e., -169 C. The other is the super-conducting cable which utilizes exotic materials such as niobium, for the conductor and operates at temperatures below -250 C. Both systems require complex refrigerating plants, which consume large amounts of power.

Both systems are experimental and are not likely to be available commercially before 1990. When available, they may lead to lower costs of underground transmission, but only when large blocks of power (several thousand MW on a single circuit) are to be transmitted continuously. To ensure reliability, it will be necessary in a practical system to provide some redundancy with the result that the cables would not normally operate at their full load rating.

Outage durations may be longer than with conventional cable designs. It will take time for the cable to warm to ambient temperature, allowing repair or maintenance crews to work. Before the cable is returned to service, it will require a similar length of time to reduce the system temperature to the operating conditions.

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Line
Number

1 3.2 TRANSFORMER AND SWITCHING STATIONS

2
3 3.2.1 INTRODUCTION

4
5 Transformer and Switching Stations serve two
6 essential functions in a power system. The stations
7 interconnect transmission lines, transformers and
8 subtransmission lines, and change voltages from one
9 transmission level to another, or to a
10 subtransmission level. Some utilities refer to
11 these transformer and switching stations as
12 substations, to separate them from the general term,
13 stations, which they reserve for generating
14 stations. The cost of these transformer and
15 switching stations at the end of 1974 represented
16 about 13% of Ontario Hydro's capital investment (1).

17
18 3.2.2 VOLTAGE LEVELS

19
20 Nominal transmission voltages switched and
21 transformed range from 115 kV to 500 kV. Ontario
22 Hydro's first 115 kV transmission system including
23 transformer stations was energized September 4,
24 1910, to transmit power from Niagara Falls. The
25 first 230 kV transmission system including Toronto
26 Leaside Transformer Station was energized October 1,
27 1928, to supply energy to Toronto from Chats Falls on
28 the Ottawa River. The first 500 kV transformer
29 stations were energized in 1966 to switch and
30 transform power from the Moose River System. The
31 increase in loads in the Province required these
32 increases in voltage and in the transformer station
33 capacities.

34
35 The voltage levels of transmission and
36 subtransmission determine the required switching and
37 transformation facilities for the associated
38 stations. The voltage levels themselves are
39 dictated by available technology, energy demands and
40 distances from source to customer.

41
42 Areas are supplied out of transformer stations most
43 commonly at subtransmission voltages of 44, 28.4 and
44 14.2 kV. Usually, the higher the voltage, the
45 larger the geographical area served, for example, 44
46 kV in Georgian Bay and Eastern Ontario areas and
47 14.2 kV in dense city areas like Toronto, Hamilton
48 and Ottawa.

3.2.3

TYPICAL POWER DIAGRAMS

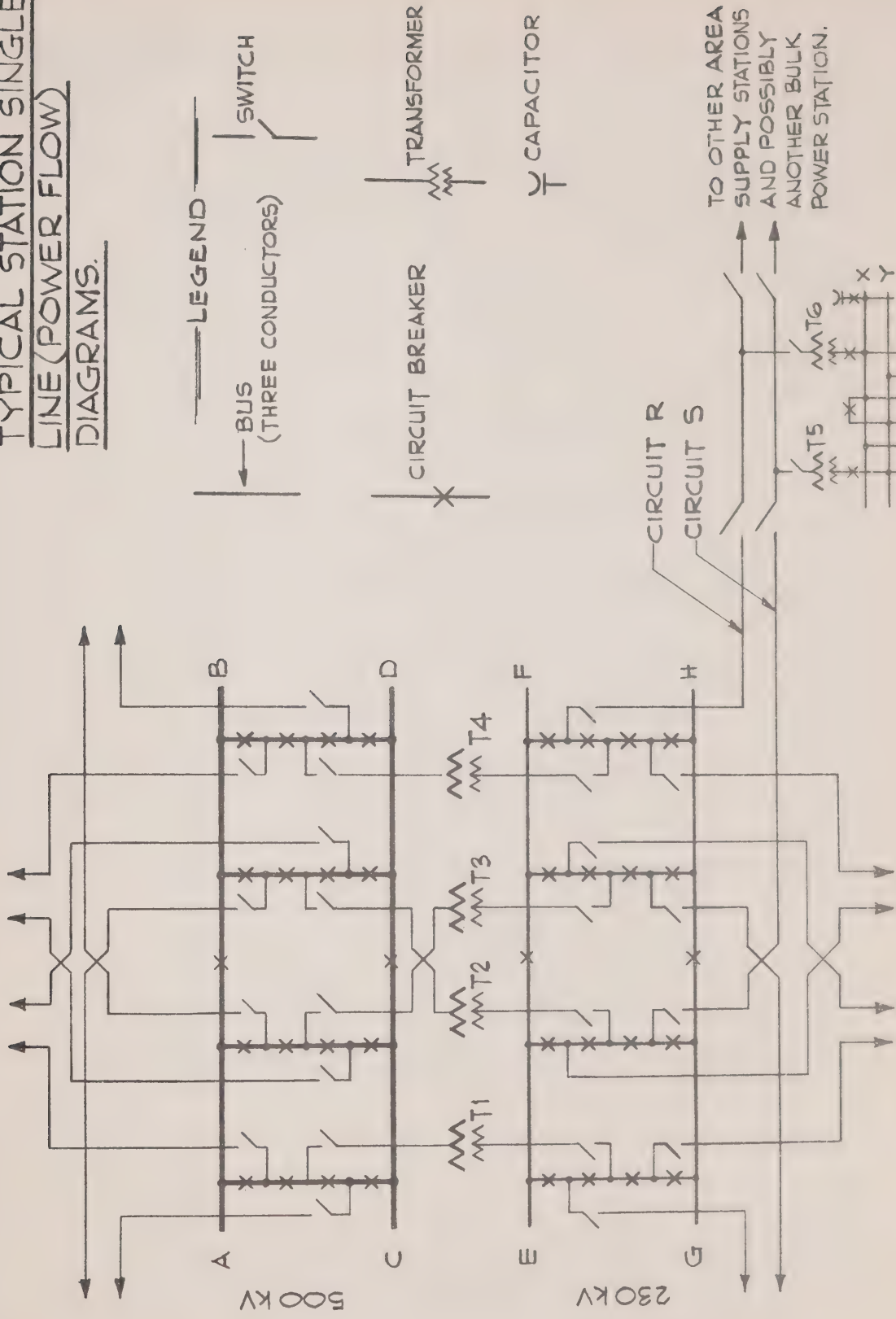
Transformer stations perform their major functions of transformation and switching in switchyards interconnected by transformers capable of transforming the power demands from one voltage level to another.

Figure 3.2.3-1 illustrates two typical substations in Ontario Hydro's system. One station is a bulk power switching and transformer station, with 500 kV switching for eight line circuits and four transformers. The 500/230 kV transformers take energy from the 500 kV bulk power system and deliver it to the 230 kV switchyard, with switching for four transformers and eight 230 kV transmission circuits. The smaller station on the right of figure 3.2.3-1, an Area Supply Transformer Station, called a Dual Element Spot Network (DESN) station, transforms power from two 230 transmission circuits to supply the adjoining area.

The number and configuration of circuit breakers and switches and the configuration and physical arrangement of buses have a significant effect on the reliability, maintenance, cost and other features of the switchyard (2).

Utility experience indicates that the incidence transmission circuit faults exceeds that of transformer faults by a substantial factor and transformer faults are more numerous than bus faults by a further substantial factor. The station is designed to take into account these relative failure rates. As a result, transmission circuits are usually associated with one or two circuit breakers so that they may be quickly separated from the station when they fail. The terminating points for each circuit of two circuit lines are separated in the switchyard to reduce the probability of loss of both circuits and also to reduce the impact on the station if both circuits of a two circuit transmission line are faulted. Disconnecting switches are installed at the termination of each circuit to isolate the circuit for sustained fault conditions and repair or long term maintenance. Buses, the most secure element in the Station, may extend throughout the entire station (X,Y) or may

TYPICAL STATION SINGLE LINE (POWER FLOW) DIAGRAMS.



AREA SUPPLY STATION (DE.S.N.)

1 have sectionalizing locations in them (AB,CD,EF and
2 GH). Transformers, may be fully isolated by circuit
3 breakers as in the bulk power station or connected
4 directly to the transmission circuits (R&S) as in
5 the area station. Each circuit of the two circuit
6 transmission line, with its associated transformers
7 may carry overloads, with reduced line efficiency or
8 accelerated loss of transformer insulation life.
9 This situation may develop in emergencies, when its
10 parallel elements are out of service. This overload
11 capability is used, for example, in the Area
12 Stations (DESNs) where either transformer (T5 or
13 T6), with the incorporation of special oil
14 circulating pumps and radiator fans, can carry its
15 own load and most of the load of its companion unit
16 in emergencies. This provides reliable service
17 without the need for expensive 230 kV circuit
18 breakers in the area supply stations. Stations are
19 also designed to operate to their full capacity
20 during routine and emergency maintenance activities.
21 This is achieved with switches on either side of all
22 circuit breakers and transformers to allow for their
23 isolation while maintenance takes place.
24 Examination of Figure 3.2.3-1 will show that any 500
25 or 230 kV circuit breaker or any transformer may be
26 removed from service with the rest of the station
27 remaining interconnected. A special switch, between
28 28 or 44 kV circuits in area stations, is provided
29 so that a circuit breaker may switch two
30 subtransmission circuits while the adjacent circuit
31 breaker is being maintained or repaired.

32 The methods described above provide adequate
33 reliability and provision for maintenance without
34 incorporating more conservative and costlier types
35 of switching diagrams, such as the conservative
36 double bus, two breaker per element design which
37 would require approximately four additional 500 kV
38 circuit breakers, four additional 230 kV circuit
39 breakers and 10 additional 28 or 44 kV circuit
40 breakers in Figure 3.2.3-1. The costs for any
41 switchyard will generally vary directly as the
42 number of circuit breakers. (3)
43
44
45
46
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48
49
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3.2.4

STATION SITES AND LAYOUTS

The land area available for a station site, the soil conditions and the use of adjacent lands have a most significant effect on the station's design. The required size of transformer station sites vary from 0.5 acres for an urban indoor 115 kV station, 8.7 acres for typical DESN station in suburban areas, 60 acres for a major 500 kV gas insulated switchgear station to 400 acres for a major 500 kV open bus station.

In commercial or residential urban areas, new stations will most probably be enclosed in buildings. To the extent practicable, the building is architecturally treated to blend with adjacent buildings. In suburban industrial and rural areas, open switching on steel structures will most probably be selected for 115 and 230 kV stations. If a large enough site is not available, a gas insulated switchgear design may be selected.

As noted above, the area required to accommodate a 500 kV transformer and switching station will vary from about 60 to 400 acres including an allowance for landscaping. The 60 acre size is based on the use of compact gas insulated switching equipment. Although Ontario Hydro has confidence in this type of 500 kV switchgear, there are not yet any installations in the world of the size and voltage of the equipment purchased for the Claireville and Milton transformer stations. Accordingly, its further use at 500 kV or at a higher voltage will be contingent on successful operating experience being gained, as well as other factors such as future costs and availability.

Most new stations incorporating open switching will be of the low profile rigid bus design, Figure 3.2.4-1. (4) This design involves the use of solid tubular structures 50 feet high for 500 kV and 29 feet high for 230 kV. Most existing stations are of the high profile strain bus design which are 96 foot high lattice steel structures at 500 kV and 52 foot high lattice steel structures for 230 kV, Figure 3.2.4-2. The 96 foot height makes the 500 kV switchyards imposing when seen from close up and readily visible on the horizon since they are not



FIGURE
3.2.4-1



FIGURE
3.2.4-2

1 screened by the average wood lot in Southern Ontario
2 which is 50 to 70 foot in height, Figure 3.2.4-3.
3 The lower height of the low profile bus design
4 should permit effective screening of the station
5 structures by landscaping using earth mounds and
6 trees. An area 50 to 200 feet wide around the
7 perimeter of the site is acquired where possible for
8 this purpose.
9

10 Confusing configurations and arrays of equipment and
11 controls can lead to operating errors and therefore
12 must be avoided. Station switchyards and associated
13 buildings are designed with equipment and buswork
14 arranged in straight forward configurations with
15 spacing to provide for the maximum safety of
16 operating personnel. Adequate clearances are
17 maintained to live parts. Walkways, both indoors
18 and outdoors, are designed with alternative means of
19 approach and escape. All stations where the
20 facilities are not completely enclosed in a building
21 are encompassed with protective fencing for
22 exclusion of the public. Chain link fencing, six
23 feet in height topped with three strands of barbed
24 wire, is used around such stations.
25

26 The sites are usually located at the intersection of
27 transmission line rights of way and within areas
28 determined by environmental, ecological and social
29 considerations. The orientation of the switching
30 equipment on the site is selected to suit the
31 transmission line egress and to achieve the least
32 number of line crossovers. At large stations, the
33 layout must usually accommodate a railway spur to
34 the transformer positions on the main axis of the
35 station. Gravelled service roads are provided in
36 switchyard areas for maintenance vehicles. Care is
37 taken to ensure that all turn radii on the service
38 roads are sufficient to accommodate long vehicles
39 such as mobile cranes.
40

41 Control and relay buildings, microwave towers and
42 communication buildings, air compressor and oil
43 handling buildings and maintenance buildings are
44 located to minimize the cost of the service
45 provided. Due to the large amounts of contained
46 oil, transformer location and spacing are arranged
47 to ensure that in the rare event of a fire in one
48 unit, other equipment will not be affected.
49
50



FIGURE
3.2.4-3

Line
Number

Retaining oil pits with sumps are constructed around all power transformers as an environmental protective device to contain spillage and provide a means of recovery in the event of the rupture of the tank or radiators. As a fire prevention measure, the pits are filled with gravel to restrict oxygen to spilled oil which may have been ignited.

Wherever possible, a station water supply is obtained from a local water main. A well is drilled to provide water for most rural stations. In cases where well drilling proves unsuccessful, a storage tank is provided and arrangements made to truck water to the station. A septic tank and bed approved by local health authorities are required when connections cannot be made to a local sewage system.

Applicable portions of Ontario Hydro Safety Rules (5) as well as portions of the Canadian Electrical Code and other Regulatory Agencies govern the site layout.

3.2.5

CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES

The engineering and construction of stations covers all activity in the engineering office and on the site, starting from the establishment of the power diagram and the acquisition of the site, to the placing in service of the completed station. This period may be three and a half years for a major station and/or two and a half years for a small area supply (DESN) station. Usually the construction is started well before design is completed in order to compress the schedule.

Most sites must be rough graded to provide level areas for the installation of station structures, buildings, etc., and to provide adequate drainage of these areas. Where large areas are involved and significant differences in natural elevations must be accommodated, terracing is permitted at controlled locations depending on the type of station.

As a first step, top soil is scraped and stockpiled for later use on portions of the site to be seeded or sodded. To the extent possible care is taken to

minimize erosion with soil runoff to local drainage during the rough grading. The designer attempts to balance the cut and fill when setting the rough grades in order to minimize soil disposed or acquisition requirements. Usually, immediately, after the rough grading is completed, the station chain link fences are erected to exclude the public from hazardous areas. Landscaping can be initiated on the areas external to the fence at this time. Excavation for foundations, buried pipes, and cable ducts, grounding, the construction of concrete forms and the pouring of concrete proceed as in any industrial installation. Most station buildings are erected by contractors obtained through competitive tenders. After the foundations are completed, the finished grading is carried out. This includes the addition of crushed stone in specific areas for protection against touch and step potential hazards and the sodding or seeding of the remainder of the site. Erection of the steel supporting structures and installation of the electrical power equipment and the control metering and relaying then proceeds and commissioning is initiated.

3.2.6 STATION EQUIPMENT

The increase in voltage levels from 115 kV in 1910 to 500 kV in 1966 and the large increase in power handling capacity have depended on the development of the technology required to build the station equipment.

3.2.6.1 Power Transformers

The success of alternating current electric power systems as entities for the supply of energy is due to the development of the power transformer into a reliable, highly efficient device.

Transformer ratings presently in service vary from some old 8 MVA, 115 kV units at a small DESN station to 750 MVA autotransformers used for the 500 to 230 kV bulk power system.

The 115 kV units being purchased today are 45/75 MVA units and the 230 kV transformers being purchased are rated 75/125 MVA.

All recently purchased transformers are three phase units. That is, the windings of all three phases are contained in one tank. For a conventional double wound transformer, there is an iron core with six windings on it, i.e. one primary winding and one secondary for each phase.

The three phase transformer is the most economical unit, both in purchase price and in cost of installation. In a few installations where there are stringent shipping limitations, single-phase transformers (one core and 2 windings in each tank) are installed as they are considerably lighter.

Weight is usually the most stringent shipping limitation. A 500 kV 750 MVA autotransformer typically weighs 350 tons stripped for shipping. Ontario Hydro has purchased a special Schnabel car for moving units of this weight on the railroad. The 230 kV 75/125 MVA transformer typically weighs 110 tons stripped for shipping. All power transformers have weights measured in tons and moving them is never easy.

Energized transformers generate a sound at a frequency of 120 Hertz. Before a transformer station is constructed, night time ambient sound levels are measured at nearby residences. Special precautions are then taken at all new stations to ensure that the sound level of the transformers will not exceed the measured night time ambient level. Ontario Hydro purchases transformers with maximum permissible sound levels of 84 dB at 500 kV, 73 dB at 230 kV, 70 dB at 115 kV, these being lower than the equivalent NEMA standard levels of 91, 82 and 80 dB respectively. (6)

The transformers in most new installations are installed within an acoustic enclosure. The enclosure can be metal or heavy masonry for particular installations. Through normal attenuation, sound levels which penetrate the acoustic enclosure are reduced to an acceptable value at the boundary of the station site. (7)

The essential insulants in a transformer are the paper wrapped about the winding conductors and the oil in which the entire assembly is immersed. The

strength of the insulation is measured by its ability to withstand a prescribed impressed overvoltage wave referred to as its basic impulse insulation level (BIL). 230 kV system transformers purchased by Ontario Hydro have a 230 kV winding strength of 900 kV BIL, i.e. the insulation of the winding will withstand a voltage wave (similar in shape to a lightning impulse) which rises to 900 kV in 1-1/2 microseconds and decays to half peak (450 kV) in 40 microseconds. 115 kV transformers are being purchased with a BIL of 550 kV and 500 kV units are purchased with a BIL of 1425 kV.

The insulating oil also serves as an efficient cooling system. Losses in transformers, appearing as heat, are removed by circulating the insulating oil through air cooled radiators. The oil and air may circulate naturally by convection. Most large transformers have their rating increased by the use of pumps to circulate the oil and fans to force the air. Transformers usually have a dual rating, such as 75/125 MVA, i.e. 75 MVA continuously with natural oil and air circulation, and 125 MVA continuously with oil pumps and air fans operating. Transformers are usually also considered to have an overload capacity with calculated loss of life due to overheating of the insulation.

Another important internal feature of a transformer is its reactance which causes a voltage drop across the transformer and increases with load. Within narrow limits, the manufacturer can adjust the reactance to suit the purchaser's requirements. The voltage drop or regulation should be minimized. The reactance also restricts the transfer of fault current through the transformer in the event of an insulation failure. This limitation of fault current protects equipment in the system supplied by the transformer.

Increases in load on a system results in a lowering of voltage at the customers service entrance because of transmission impedance and transformer regulation. This introduces a need to raise the voltage at the source transformer in order to stabilize the voltage. Most area supply (DESN) stations have transformers that can raise the voltage automatically as the load increases.

3.2.6.2 Circuit Breakers

These are the devices used for closing and opening the power circuits. They differ from load interruptors in that they are rated as having a capability to interrupt fault currents. These fault currents are foreseen to be as high as 80,000 amperes on parts of the Ontario Hydro system in the 1990's, compared with our present maximum level of 63,000 amperes.

Circuit Breakers are called upon to perform four basic functions:

- (a) Be an ideal conductor when closed.
- (b) Be an ideal insulator when open.
- (c) When closed be able to interrupt approximately 16 to 20 times its rated current promptly at any instant without causing dangerous overvoltages.
- (d) When open to close promptly at any instant without being impaired by the flow of fault current.

Power circuit breakers supplied at this time are of 3 main types:

- (a) Oil Circuit Breakers are used from 15 kV up to 230 kV. In these breakers, the interrupting area is completely immersed in oil which acts to quench the arc produced by opening the contacts. These breakers have the advantage of not requiring an auxiliary external air system to assist the interrupting operation but from time to time the oil becomes contaminated with carbon particles and must be filtered to maintain its quality. There is a certain fire hazard associated with oil breakers. This presents minimum risk outdoors, but is not an acceptable risk indoors.
- (b) Air Blast Circuit breakers (15-500 kV) use compressed air as an insulant and extinguish the arc by a blast of air. Compressed air has an insulation quality equivalent to oil but without the attendant fire hazard. However, air blast breakers do require a highly reliable air storage and supply system to provide

extremely dry air in sufficient quantities for several operations of all station breakers. The requirement for separate current transformers is an economic penalty where air blast circuit breakers are used. Current transformers are an integral component of the bushings of an oil circuit breaker.

(c) Sulphur Hexafluoride Gas circuit breakers employ SF6 gas with its excellent insulation qualities. The SF6 breaker used with conventional buses preceded SF6 switchgear by some years. There are two families of SF6 breakers, one a single pressure unit, and the other, which extinguishes the arc by means of high pressure SF6 provided by a special compressor. This high pressure (18 atmospheres - 1820 kPa) requires heating since otherwise the gas liquefies at 14 Degrees C at this pressure.

(d) Vacuum Breakers are now being offered for use at 115 kV and higher voltages but are still considered developmental. None have been purchased to date by Ontario Hydro.

Noise occurs on opening an airblast circuit breaker as the high pressure air is exhausted to the atmosphere after passing through the current interrupting chambers. This noise, which is like a sharp report and lasts momentarily, can be reduced by the fitting of mufflers on some breakers. Breakers may be operated many times while being checked into service and then are seldom operated thereafter. However, some units used to switch capacitors or reactors may be operated on a more regular basis. Gas and oil insulated breakers have different and less sharp noise characteristics in their operation and are not as noticeable as airblast units.

3.2.6.3

SF6 Gas Insulated Switchgear

One of the most significant advances in station equipment in the last decade is the development of sulphur hexafluoride gas insulated switchgear.

Line
Number

1 More than one hundred gas insulated stations in the
2 70 kV to 420 kV range are in commercial service in
3 Europe. Some installations have been in service
4 since 1967. Similar type switchgear at 115 kV to
5 765 kV has been installed or is on order in North
6 America. There are also installations in Singapore
7 and Japan.

8
9 SF6 switchgear promises increased reliability,
10 reduced maintenance, reduced station costs, and
11 increased acceptability due to the substantial
12 reduction in station site areas.

13
14 With open switching the insulation of a 230 kV bus
15 is essentially a 12 foot Cylinder of free air. With
16 SF6 gas the bus can be accomodated in a 24" diameter
17 tube. As a consequence the use of SF6 insulated
18 switchgear has a major effect on the size of
19 switchyard areas and the entire station site. A gas
20 insulated 230 kV station occupies an area
21 approximately 16 to 20% of that required for a
22 station with conventional low profile outdoor
23 switchyards. In the case of 500 kV, it is about 10
24 to 14%.

25
26 Based on the compact nature of this switchgear and
27 the climatic conditions found in Ontario, it appears
28 prudent at present to install this switchgear in
29 buildings. The building will provide a superior
30 environment for erection, operation and maintenance
31 independent of weather. The stations are being
32 designed to terminate most of the 500 kV
33 transmission circuits directly on the switchgear
34 building. This will improve the overall appearance
35 of the station installation by eliminating the heavy
36 anchor line structures that would otherwise be
37 required.

38
39 Costs of particular elements of gas insulated
40 switchgear approach twice the cost of the similar
41 particular elements of air insulated switchgear at
42 voltages below 230 kV. However, the extremely
43 compact size of the SF6 switchyard results in
44 important cost reductions in the facilities (site,
45 roads, buildings, structures, control cables)
46 associated with the switchgear especially at
47 voltages above 230 kV. Since the major portions of
48
49
50
51

this gear are assembled in the manufacturer's plant, field labour costs should also be reduced.

3.2.6.4 Open Switching Buses

The main buses (8, 9) are the common connection points for all circuits entering the station. To ensure continuity of service, all transformer stations are built with two main buses. The most flexible, economical and compact station arrangement is achieved by arranging the two buses side by side at one side of the switchyard and connecting the diameters in which the circuit breakers and line terminations are located in a folded or U arrangement between them. (4)

There are two types of buswork used in stations -- strain and rigid. Strain buses are stranded cable conductors, either copper or aluminum suspended between steel structures and supported and insulated from the structure by porcelain strain insulator assemblies. (Fig. 3.2.4-2) Rigid buses are copper or aluminum tubes supported on rigid porcelain insulators mounted on steel structures. (Fig. 3.2.4-1)

The bus and its supports are designed to withstand without failure, the maximum short circuit forces as well as winds in excess of 80 mph or the additional weight due to 1/2" of ice. (8) Phase to phase and phase to ground clearances are selected to ensure a basic insulation level that is coordinated with the electrical equipment in the station. The centre to centre spacing of the buses is often larger than the minimum phase to phase electrical clearance spacing in order to reduce the magnetic forces on the bus due to fault currents. The probable fault currents which may occur at the station in the ultimate is forecast. A number of station designs based on different centre to centre bus spacings, bus diameters and supporting insulators are available as standards and the appropriate design is selected to suit. The standard bus designs are also rated according to their continuous current carrying capacity.

In the large 500 kV stations, the main bus consists of 12 inch diameter aluminum tubing and has a

Line
Number

continuous current rating of 8000 amperes. The diameter bus is an 8 inch aluminum tube with a rating of 4000 amperes.

Most existing stations were built with three levels of bus. Most new stations are expected to have only two levels. In both designs, the lowest level is rigid bus. The standard height above grade of the low bus is set to permit an operator on snowshoes to walk safely under the bus. In Southern Ontario, the minimum are 15 feet at 115 kV, 17 feet at 230 kV and 23 feet at 500 kV.

Upper bus levels must be supported above the lower bus at a sufficient height to ensure phase to phase clearance and also to provide working clearance during maintenance on the lower bus. This results in a minimum bus height of 29 feet at 230 kV and 50 feet at 500 kV. This sets the bus height of the Low Profile Stations.

Buses and all energized equipment are designed to be corona free. (9) Bus fittings are type tested at Ontario Hydro's Research Centre. By specifying adequate conductor size, spacing and by bundling of strain buses, surface voltage gradients are kept below the corona level. Voltage grading rings are applied where equipment or hardware cannot be streamlined.

3.2.6.5 Voltage and Power Factor Control Equipment

Only alternating current in phase with its associated voltage produces useful energy. The presence of inductive or capacitive elements in the transmission system or the customer's load produces additional current not in phase with the voltage. To reduce these useless currents, the utility introduces capacitance or inductance as required to reduce the system losses which are a function of total current.

Transformer stations are appropriate locations to install capacitors, shunt reactors and synchronous condensers for the supply of capacitive or inductive vars as required for voltage regulation of the system. It is usually most economic to connect this equipment to the tertiary windings of the auto-

transformers at the bulk power stations. In those cases where the size of the VAR equipment exceeds the capacity of the tertiary winding, the equipment is connected to one of the high or low voltage buses. At DESN stations, capacitors are usually connected to the low voltage bus.

(a) Capacitors

Capacitors are essentially two parallel sheet foil surfaces separated by a sheet of insulation, all immersed in a liquid insulant and sealed in a metal tank with porcelain bushings.

The capacity of the capacitor banks is usually proportional to the voltage. Typical ratings of banks on the Ontario Hydro system are 20 MVAR at 13.8 kV, 30 MVAR at 27.6 kV and 44 kV, 100 MVAR at 115 kV and 200 MVAR at 230 kV.

Capacitor banks at stations usually comprise compact stacked assemblies of individual and self-contained capacitor units to make up the required bank size.

(b) Shunt Reactors

They are, in construction and appearance, similar to autotransformers. They are usually the autotransformer tertiaries at 500 kV and some 230 kV stations and are used to suppress voltages on the high voltage bus when the system is unloaded or lightly loaded. The usual rating is 50 to 150 MVAR at 27.6 kV. Some 500 kV lines have been equipped with 41.7 MVAR shunt reactors. They are in construction and appearance similar to power transformers. The number of installations required is limited in comparison to capacitors.

(c) Synchronous Condensers

Synchronous condensers are large rotating machines with rotor and stator windings similar to ac generators. By varying the current in the field coils, the machine can be made to operate as a generator of vars (similar to a

Line
Number

capacitor) or an absorber of vars (reactor). Despite this versatility, static capacitors and reactors are being installed at new stations in preference because of the high initial cost and high maintenance cost of the synchronous condenser and its relatively high operating losses.

3.2.6.6 Other Equipment

Though transformers, circuit breakers, buses, synchronous condensers, static capacitor banks and shunt reactors are the major power equipment in a transformer station, there are several other power devices that are installed in all stations.

(a) Switches

Switches consist essentially of two types, isolating and load break. Isolating switches are used to disconnect from the system a piece of equipment or a line which has failed, or for which isolation is required for maintenance purposes. Normally such switches are not designed to be opened when current is flowing in the switch. However, small currents, up to 15 amperes, may be interrupted by switches with auxiliary arcing contacts, called horn gap switches. Load break switches are used to open a circuit when current is flowing and are designed for this purpose. The capability of such switches is limited and they are not suitable for the interruption of large fault currents. Switches may be manual or motor operated.

(b) Lightning Arresters and Spark Gaps

Lightning arresters and spark gaps (10) are used to protect equipment such as transformers from damage due to excessive over-voltage caused by lightning or switching surges. When an over-voltage occurs, the lightning arrester or spark gap provides a low impedance path to ground and discharge current flows to ground thus reducing the over-voltage to a value below the withstand level of the equipment insulation.

(c) Current Transformers

Current transformers provide a means of measuring the current flow in a circuit. The primary of the current transformer is connected into the circuit and the secondary of the current transformer provides a low voltage and low current signal, the low current being proportional to the current flowing in the high voltage circuit. This low current signal is used to energize meters and protective relays.

(d) Potential and Capacitor Voltage Transformers

Potential transformers (PT's) and capacitor voltage transformers (CVT's) provide a means of measuring the voltage on a high voltage circuit. The primary winding of the PT or CVT is connected to the high voltage circuit. The secondary winding provides a low voltage in the primary winding thus providing a voltage signal which can be used to energize meters and protective relays. CVT's are also used for line coupling with power line carrier communications facilities (see 3.2.9.2).

(e) Grounding and Direct Stroke Lightning Protection

Stations are protected from a possible direct stroke of lightning by the installation of one or more skywires or spires mounted at a considerable height above the equipment and buses and connected to ground.(11)

Buried ground buses consisting of copper cable and ground rods are provided at all stations to provide very low resistance to the flow of fault currents. This is important in order to reduce step and touch potentials within the station and to reduce the voltage rise of the station ground during power system disturbances. On sites on rock or with high resistivity soil, special grounding treatment will be provided to reduce the grounding resistance to acceptable levels. (12)

(f) Station Service

Station service is the ac and dc supplies needed within a station to supply the various electrical needs of the station, such as lighting, heating and control systems. A large bulk power station would typically require a 1000 kVA capability of electric power to supply the station service. A typical DESN station requires 200 kVA.

(i) AC Station Service

The source for this power is usually the high voltage system, but on occasion, rural lines are brought into the transformer station. Transformation is provided to reduce the voltage to the 600 and 120 volts needed by motors, heaters etc. Reliability is provided by having duplicate supplies and automatic transfer schemes. Diesel Generator Standby is sometimes provided as a back-up supply particularly at stations where the normal service is from rural lines.

(ii) DC Station Service

This is provided from one or two batteries. Again as in ac, there are automatic transfer schemes, monitoring schemes with alarms, etc.

Line
Number

3.2.7

CONTROL SYSTEMS

The power system is operated as an integrated multi-tiered organization comprised of generating and transformer stations, Regional Operating Centres, and the System Control Centre located at Richview TS in Toronto.

The System Control Centre directs the operation of the transmission, switching and transformation of the bulk power system (115 kV and higher) and it directs the economic scheduling and loading of generating facilities and the implementation of transactions with other systems. To accomplish this, the staff of the System Control Centre are provided with telemetered quantities and equipment status from across the system. This information is now being supplied by a sophisticated Data Acquisition and Computing System (DACS), which is being commissioned at the present time. (13) (14)

Most transformer stations and hydraulic generating stations are controlled from District Control Centres by Supervisory Control Systems. As of Dec. 31, 1975, full-time operating attendance is maintained at 40 transformer and switching stations and 28 generating stations. Operators at the attended stations are also responsible for control of 169 non-attended transformer stations and 50 non-attended hydraulic generating stations and the switchyards at three large thermal generating stations. They also direct sectionalizing by line crews of all 115 kV and 230 kV transmission circuits and many distribution circuits in rural areas. Approximately 80% of the non-attended stations and the three thermal generating station switchyards are controlled by Supervisory Control Systems operated over telephone circuits or microwave in some instances, and the remaining 20% of the non-attended stations have a simple alarm system to the District Control Centre. Extensive use is made of radio communication in directing line sectionalizing for fault isolation or maintenance.

The earlier supervisory control equipment operated on the basis of vibrating reed relays which were tuned to respond to a limited range of tones received from the remote equipment. This has now

Line
Number

been superseded by solid state equipment for most applications. Ontario Hydro has purchased its first Computer Assisted Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System, with delivery expected in September 1976. This equipment is expected to permit the control of many more stations from one Control Centre. (15)

Every station is provided with a control building from which all electrically operated equipment on the station can be controlled. All important electrical quantities and equipment status required for operating the station are displayed in the control room. In the event of trouble with the supervisory control equipment, the station is operated from the local control room by an operator dispatched to the location for this purpose. An operator must also be dispatched to an unattended station in the event of apparatus failure, equipment malfunction or planned maintenance which requires on-site switching. The frequency of the requirement for on-site attendance and the probable time required for an operator to reach each of the unattended stations, together with the effective range of radio communications, are the principle factors involved in the location of District Operating Centres.

3.2.8 PROTECTIVE RELAYING SYSTEMS

3.2.8.1 Introduction

Every component of a power system, from the generator to the customer, which operates at a voltage level above ground is subject to the breakdown of the isolation or insulation to ground or to other conductors. The most notable example of this is the effect of lightning on transmission lines. When this occurs the resulting shunt fault or short circuit condition can impose a sudden and sometimes violent change on system operation. Enormous currents can flow accompanied by the localized release of vast quantities of energy. If this is not immediately corrected serious damage to equipment can result and/or the various generating sources can pull out of step with each other and the system collapses. Similarly, the failure of power system control equipment, such as switchgear, to

Line
Number

operate as intended can also lead to damage and service interruptions. It is the primary function of protective relaying to recognize when such faults or malfunctions are occurring, assess their severity and location and initiate disconnection of the faulty component or take some other corrective action, automatically, in the shortest time which can be practically and consistently achieved and is economically warranted.

3.2.8.2

General Description of a Typical Protective Relay Scheme

In Ontario Hydro a typical protective relay scheme, such as would be applied on a high voltage transmission line, is composed of a number of discrete individual elements purchased from a variety of manufacturers. These elements are assembled into a complete working system whose operation is designed to meet the standards, policies and practices developed within the Corporation. Where a disturbance can effect interconnected utilities, the criteria set forth in the Northeast Power Co-ordinating Council Bulk Power System Protection Philosophy are applied. (16)

Major elements of a complete relay scheme are:

- (a) Current and voltage transformers, necessary to provide a measurement of the currents and voltage pertaining at high voltage levels to a remote location at low or safe voltage levels. (3.2.6.6)
- (b) Fault detecting relays which can be considered as dedicated analog computers receiving the measured signals and by their level and inter-relationship determine and initiate the corrective action required. These devices can be relatively simple or extremely complex and are the heart of the protective scheme.
- (c) Auxiliary relays which accept the signal from the fault detecting relays providing the trip logic while performing the function of the interface between the fault detectors and the switchgear.

Line
Number

- (d) Communication channels to transmit or receive switching instructions to or from a remote location, such as the other end of a transmission line, or provide additional information on which the appropriate local trip logic is dependent.
- (e) Various other periphery or ancilliary devices to
 - (i) Facilitate maintenance and testing procedures
 - (ii) provide an uninterrupted power supply to the relay scheme
 - (iii) protect sensitive devices against the effects of voltage surges
 - (iv) provide an indication to the power system operators of what has occurred automatically and why
 - (v) high speed recording of electrical quantities to allow analysis of equipment performance under fault conditions
 - (vi) restore the faulted power system component to service automatically if the fault is transient.

3.2.8.3 System Relaying

Besides protective relaying schemes which are dedicated to the detection of faults within a well defined zone there is a type of relaying employed which oversees the general health of the power system as a whole and initiates automatic high speed remedial action as required. For example, should the system load suddenly exceed the generation available the resulting decline in system frequency will be recognized and sufficient load will be disconnected to restore a balance or, should the opening of a high voltage circuit leave inadequate transmission facilities remaining to carry the available generation to a load centre, that level of generation will be immediately reduced. Such system relaying, in general, is intended to limit the

number, extent or duration of widespread outages to our customers and disturbances to the interconnected utilities.

3.2.8.4 Standardization

As much as is practical to do so the designs for protective relay schemes have been standardized to accommodate the various types of power system components such as generators and transformers, which are added as the system grows and which present the same or similar application problem. This has the advantage of reducing design manhours to that required to adapt a standard to meet a particular situation. It permits the bulk purchase of relay equipment, allows the manufacturers to appreciate how we intend to use his products and reduces the number of check-in-service and routine maintenance procedures required of the field staff. Over 90 such standards have now been developed and are being applied.

3.2.8.5 Future Developments

As the system load continues to grow Ontario is passing through a period where the existing transmission facilities are called upon to operate at power levels significantly higher than what could be considered normal. As a consequence, protective relay schemes of greater sophistication in design and application are required to distinguish reliably between a fault and those very high power levels which, under certain conditions, can appear as a fault to the relays. Several devices are now being designed and developed within the Corporation to meet this challenge. These devices have operating characteristics and principles not presently available from relay manufacturers.

Power system components such as generators and transformers continue to increase in unit size thus achieving higher operating efficiencies. Although the probability of faults or failures occurring within this equipment is not necessarily affected by size, the financial consequences of any fault damage which forces the equipment out of service is. Therefore, the associated protection schemes, particularly for generating units, are expected to

Line
Number

1 increase in extent and complexity in order to
2 minimize the probability of sustaining a damaging
3 fault.
4

5
6 3.2.9 MICROWAVE SYSTEM AND COMMUNICATION FACILITIES

7
8 3.2.9.1 Introduction
9

10 The transmission of electrical energy from the
11 generating stations to the transformer stations
12 and load centres and the interconnection of the
13 power system with other power systems has
14 resulted in the development of extensive
15 communications facilities for voice
16 communication, telemetering, supervisory
17 control, data acquisition, and protection
18 signals transmitted between control centres and
19 generating stations, transformer stations and
20 switching stations.

21
22 A variety of transmission media is employed for
23 communication in a transformer station
24 depending on the required bandwidth, on
25 economic and various technical factors. The
26 power system is unique in that it can provide a
27 very reliable physical path, viz. the power
28 lines which interconnect the points of
29 generation and supply, between which signals
30 can be transmitted by means of a high-frequency
31 carrier. In addition to power line carrier,
32 microwave radio, and a limited Hydro-owned
33 cable system, leased facilities from Bell
34 Canada or other private telephone companies
35 provide the required services. The choice of
36 the communication medium depends upon economic,
37 technical and geographical factors and is
38 influenced primarily by the requirements of the
39 protective relaying system and also by the
40 number of channels required for voice
41 communications for power dispatching, data
42 transmission, supervisory control and other
43 similar services, since all communications
44 systems do not have the same channel capacity.
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1 3.2.9.2 General Description of Typical
2 Communications Systems
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4 (a) Cable Systems
5

6 Cable systems can be provided by Ontario Hydro
7 or they may be leased from the telephone
8 company. They are employed primarily for the
9 transmission of relay protection switching
10 instructions to a remote location or to provide
11 information from a remote location on which the
12 relay protection tripping logic at a local
13 station is dependent. Cable circuits can also
14 be used for control purposes and for
15 administrative communications.
16

17 Communications cables entering transformer
18 stations are subject to a hostile environment,
19 which is the major cause of circuit
20 disturbances. The disturbances are caused by
21 ground potential rise, voltage induction,
22 lightning and switching surges or electrical
23 contact between power and communications
24 conductors. In order to reduce hazards to both
25 equipment and personnel, protective equipment
26 such as carbon blocks, heat coils, neutralizing
27 transformers and isolation transformers, are
28 installed as required.

29 Cable systems provide satisfactory and
30 economical service generally over short
31 distances in urban or suburban areas where
32 alternative routing is available.
33

34 (b) Power Line Carrier
35

36 The reliability of power line conductors for
37 the transmission of information is very high
38 and this medium has been used extensively for
39 the most economic transmission of a small
40 number of channels over relatively long
41 distances. A power line carrier system
42 consists of three distinct subsystems
43

- 44 (i) The high voltage line which must provide a
45 satisfactory bearer medium for the
46 transmission of high frequency signals
47 between power stations.
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Line
Number

(ii) The line coupling equipment which provides a means of connecting the carrier equipment to the line without undue loss and to protect the power line carrier (PLC) equipment. Essentially the coupling equipment is comprised of:

- A coupling capacitor which is provided for a dual function - as a capacitive voltage transformer (CVT) as described in section 3.2.6.6 and to couple the high frequency low potential signal to the low frequency (60 Hz) high potential transmission line. It is located in the switchyard at the line entrance position.
- A line trap which is connected in series in the power line at the point where the coupling capacitor is connected to the line and station bus. The trap serves to provide isolation at certain high frequencies between the power line and station elements. The electrical characteristics such as nominal current rating, symmetrical mechanical and thermal short circuit ratings must be such as to meet the demands imposed on the trap during static and dynamic states in the power network.
- Coupling devices comprising transformers, arrestors, inductors, capacitors, and resistors between the coupling capacitor and the carrier equipment to provide a satisfactory path for the high frequency signals and to provide protection and safety for PLC equipment and personnel.

(iii) The PLC equipment is comprised of transmitters and receivers that operate primarily in the frequency range 30 - 200KHz at powers varying from one watt to one hundred watts. Amplitude or frequency modulation is employed and such equipment is mounted on racks or in cabinets that are usually located in relay buildings for convenient connection to the transformer station protective relaying or control

Line
Number

equipment. The power supply is obtained from the station battery or in some cases from a 48 volt D.C. power supply.

(c) Microwave Radio

As the power transmission facilities grew more complex, and from the experience gained from the November 1965 blackout, more sophisticated protective relaying schemes were developed to meet the increased demand for reliability and security of the power network. As a consequence, additional protection signalling channels were required for the direct tripping of circuit breakers at the remote end of the line, for transferring discrete information from the protective relays at one end of the line to those at the other for permissive or blocking functions and to transmit analog information between the protective relays at each end of the line for comparison purposes and tripping logic. The increase in demand for protection functions and for other channels for present and future needs led to the establishment of a microwave radio system which could provide a medium independent of the power transmission system that would be very reliable and that would have the channel capacity to carry protection, supervisory and control information.

The use of frequency modulated microwave radio is widely recognized as a flexible, reliable and economical means of providing inter-station communications. When used with appropriate multiplex equipment, it can carry a wide variety and number of circuits from simple voice channels to wide band channels for high speed data transmission. In accordance with federal government regulations, the microwave system operates in the 7125 - 7725MHz band which can provide up to 960 voice grade channels although to date 600 channel capacity has been the maximum used in the Ontario Hydro system.

In a typical transformer station, the major elements of the microwave system will comprise

a tower, antenna and waveguide system, radio and multiplex equipment, tone signalling equipment for protection and control, and associated power supplies. In addition telephone order-wire and supervisory equipment is provided for maintenance and alarm reporting. The following is a brief description of each major element.

(d) Microwave Tower

The microwave tower is essentially a rigid self supporting structure to support the microwave antenna and may vary in height from 150 feet to over 400 feet. The height is determined by the distance and topography of the terrain between stations because the microwave beam requires an unobstructed line of sight path and behaves much like a light beam insofar as atmospheric influences are concerned. Unfortunately many factors influence the choice of sites for a transformer station and the microwave system designer does not always have the best conditions with which to choose the optimum design and therefore must contend with less than ideal conditions on transformer stations in many cases.

The tower, being the highest structure in the station, provides lightning protection for the station and has reduced the requirement for lightning protection structures on the new stations. The tower is solidly grounded at each leg and is connected to the station ground grid in at least two places. The tower is designed in accordance with a C.S.A. (17) specification and can withstand wind loadings up to 48/32 lbs./sq. ft. with exposed surfaces of all tower members covered with 1/2" thickness of radial ice. It is lighted and painted, as required, by regulations of the Federal Department of Transport, Air services Branch. In an effort to improve the station appearance, recent tower designs were changed from a four legged, angle iron, straight sided structure to a more aesthetically designed tower with three tubular steel legs that are flared to present a more pleasing appearance.

(e) Antenna and Waveguide System

The microwave antenna is a device for collecting and focusing divergent radiation into a parallel beam in much the same way that an optical lens focuses a light beam. The microwave "lens" is an aluminum parabolic reflector which is illuminated by a flared waveguide that transmits and receives the microwave energy to and from the microwave transmitter and receiver. The antenna can vary between 6ft. and 12ft. in diameter and is located at a height on the tower and oriented in the direction which meets the propagation criteria to adjacent stations in the microwave network. The mounting is extremely rigid and the antenna and waveguide are capable of withstanding wind velocities up to 100 miles per hour and gusts up to 150 miles per hour. The waveguide runs are attached to the tower legs and by a waveguide bridge between the tower and radio building. The more recent installations employ flexible waveguide which is much easier to handle and install, and requires less installation hardware.

(f) Radio and Multiplex Equipment

The microwave radio and multiplex equipment is usually housed in a control or relay building if possible. Otherwise a building is provided at the tower base for this purpose. In order to keep waveguide losses to a minimum, the tower should be located adjacent to the building in which the equipment is housed and should a tower installation conflict with other station structures, the tower and a separate building are constructed on the periphery of the station.

The radio building is heated and air conditioned to meet the ambient temperature and humidity conditions specified by the supplier of the equipment. The A.C. power supply is provided from the station service and duct facilities are constructed for inter-building cables. Space is provided for duplicate 48 volt batteries, associated chargers and power

Line
Number

distribution units that supply power to the radio, multiplex and auxiliary equipment. The status of the microwave system is monitored by a supervisory alarm system which annunciates essential information at the microwave alarm centre located at the Richview System Control Centre.

(g) Tone Signalling Equipment

The tone signalling equipment, as applied to protective relaying, is identified as protection tone equipment. Such equipment is always located in close proximity to the protection relays in order to reduce the amount of cabling and cable exposure to extraneous voltages. This equipment is interconnected with the associated relays for the transmission or reception of tripping, permissive or analog commands and is mounted on racks in relay buildings. 48 volt power supplies are also provided to power the tone equipment and in special cases to provide power for selected protection relays. Multi-conductor cables are installed between relay buildings and the radio building to interconnect the tone signalling equipment with the multiplexed voice channels. Suitable shielding and isolation transformers permit reliable and safe operation during fault conditions.

Tone signalling equipment and associated transmitters/receivers for telemetering, and data acquisition are installed in convenient locations that require a minimum amount of cabling and exposure.

3.2.9.3 Engineering and Supply

Cable and power line carrier systems are designed and specified by Ontario Hydro staff. Tendering specifications for equipment are written by the design engineers and following award of the business, detailed design and drawing production proceed on the basis of the type of equipment supplied. Field installation is performed by Design and Construction Department field staff or by regional forces.

On the other hand, the microwave system is provided on an Engineer, Furnish and Install basis. Corporation engineers prepare a basic design and performance specification for a microwave system to meet specific criteria. The supplier is responsible for the system design, equipment design and installation, which includes all drawings and instructions. Civil works such as roads, site preparation, towers, buildings and fencing are all provided by the prime contractor.

3.2.10

MAINTENANCE FACILITIES

Apart from their basic functions of switching, transforming and operating, a large transformer station or a station located near a large population centre may have maintenance and service facilities located on site. Office facilities may be provided for supervisors, maintenance technical staff, protection and control technical staff and administration. Repair shops may be provided for equipment and for instruments and relays. Indoor and outdoor storage facilities may also be included.

It may not be possible to site the station in all cases for access by railroad. It then becomes necessary to rely on road transport from a railhead. Not only is this transport facility essential for the construction phase, but in addition it must remain available and unrestricted for the life of the station to replace transformers and other major equipment that may suffer a failure in service. When such failures occur replacement must be made without delay to restore reliability of supply to the load. This will require pre-planning and prior arrangements for such situations as the half-load season on the roads.

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